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MISCELLANEOUS.

— 529 —

Public Men.

SECURITIES FOR THE PATRIOTISM AND INTEGRITY OF PUBLIC MEN.

Enlighten the public—give them courage to express their opinions, and the march of improvement is certain—liberty is secure.

ANONYMOUS.

The best, or perhaps the only securities for the patriotism and integrity of public men, are the diffusion of knowledge, and the growth of public spirit among the body of the people. Until society at large be conversant with their own rights, and feel able and willing to maintain them, there is no security that they will be steadily attended to by public characters. Great virtues, like great families, are propped up by what they propagate. It is one thing to perceive a principle; it is another thing to adhere to it with constancy in public life. There are occasions on which the best and greatest will fail, if not supported, cherished, or remonstrated with, by those around them. The hope of praise and the fear of reproof, are both necessary to the preservation, of rectitude; and these will operate forcibly and steadily in proportion as knowledge is diffused through society. Perfection would be attained, in this respect, if every act of every public man were seen by the public, and reflected back upon himself in its true colours. This truth may appear revolting to some proud spirits; and it may not always be palatable to any: it is not on that account, however, the less, but the more valuable: it is salutary exactly in the proportion that it is painful. The work of a private teacher is never complete until he has elevated his pupil to a level with himself. Public teachers are in the same predicament. Their success is measurable by the rapidity with which the public adopt their views and principles; and if public good be their end, their object is gained, as their own consequence, in one sense, is diminished. In reality, however, he is a little man who covets greatness at the expense of his fellows, who would retain consequence by keeping them in ignorance, in a state of mental slavery. He is truly a great man who has emancipated a great number of minds; and nothing should gratify him more highly than to live until he see those seeds of thought, which he has sown with a lavish hand, ripened, not in a few instances only, but generally over the face of society. If benevolence be an ingredient in his nature, he will feel delighted to find those views which originated with himself extended by others; and the greatness of his own mind must have forsaken him, if he should feel deeply mortified because some of his positions have been overthrown. Something of this kind results necessarily from the progress of society; and the greater the impetus which any man gives to the intellect of his age, the more likely is he to find himself corrected on some points, and outdone on others. Having put weapons of great value into the hands of all, it would be surprising if no one should be found to wield them for some purpose or other more dexterously than himself. But if this be true with respect to science—if the public, as soon almost as the ablest speculation has been laid before them, become aggregatedly wiser and more knowing than the speculator, how much more does the same principle hold with respect to conduct! We do not mean to say that the public are individually wiser or better than the public men of whose actions they form their opinions. We are willing to allow that, taking them singly, they

know less; and, that in matters which try their own principles, they are not more upright in actual life; but, from being less impassioned, and less tempted, they are more impartial. Public men are parties immediately in all public measures. It is on them therefore, that interest, prejudice, and ambition, with the whole train of affections and passions, exert their greatest force. The public, on the other hand, are comparatively spectators; for, although they have an interest—and a deep interest too—it is seen by reflection, and seldom felt so strongly as to warp the judgment. Having had no experience of such situations, they cannot, indeed, decide very accurately on what has been resisted, or the amount of the temptation; but they will decide fairly on the value of what has been done. We are confirmed in this view from holding that, generally speaking, and according to the degree in which they are informed, the body of the people see rightly, and mean well. They are not polished, it is true, and they must be ignorant of those forms which are observed so scrupulously in the circles above them; but with respect to public affairs, they are always honest in their sentiments, and, for the most part, true in their perceptions. It is of great importance, therefore, that their opinions should be known. They possess a moral value which could not fail to restrain the bad, and give confidence to the good. Every honest purpose would be strengthened; every bad one weakened or disconcerted. The real patriot would then know that he had a grateful people at his back. He would be rewarded by their praise—the highest reward to the highest minds—while he did well; and their disapprobation or reproof would not be wanting when measures of a questionable or mischievous nature received his support. How silly, therefore, is it in any one to tell another, that he has nothing to do with politics! Every man, it is true, is not a member of parliament; but every man can add a fraction to the public voice, which, in the long run, restrains, controls, and directs public men. Like the widow's mite, an expression of honest opinion by the humblest individual is of moment from its intrinsic value; but it is of still greater importance as it forms a part of that great whole, which, if well directed, might, politically speaking, accomplish every thing. Directly every voice in society is of some value; but indirectly, and by way of example, it goes much farther. No one can say how far he may influence his neighbour; and number alone does not merely give physical, but moral energy. It is not every man who has confidence in his own opinions, until he see them avowed, defended, and advocated by those around him. We look upon it, therefore, as the best means of saving a country, when the middle ranks—throwing many delicate scruples and personal considerations aside—step forward, and asserting their own rights, vindicate and protect the rights and interests of all the other classes in society. When those who occupy the middle ground discharge their duty, they ensure the performance of similar duties from those above and below them. It is thus only that the labouring classes can be either kept duly alive, or restrained within due bounds, and that public men can be sustained in a good cause, or restrained in a bad one. We have no other permanent security for integrity and purity in public life. But there is every reason to think that we are to have this security. The progress of knowledge—which in another term for independence—among the middling classes in Scotland, is almost incredible. They have

recently begun to know their own strength and importance—they have tasted of the pleasure of doing *public good*; and they will not falter in their course. But they should never forget, that what they have done has been accomplished by *union*, and that to do any thing in future *this union* must be maintained. What we allude to, however, is no secret bond—no combination of persons and means to destroy either life or character—to shut the avenues to justice, or to poison its streams, with the view of crushing or tyrannizing over our fellow-men. To such practices we think those of the thief and the robber absolutely reputableness. The *union* we allude to implies only the sacrifice of some little vanities on our own part—the yielding to some weak pride on the part of others—the negation of that selfishness which interferes with public good. All it requires is the courage to be honest. The exhortation is probably not necessary: we see no ground for thinking that it is; but there can be no harm in reminding our countrymen, that success is more dangerous to *union*—more trying to this sort of *public virtue*—than opposition or defeat itself. The independent and liberal party are at present in possession of a great moral triumph. Their enemies are in a manner at their feet. The attempts made by the *faction*, for some years past, to gain an ascendancy by a sort of blackguard assurance—by boldly outraging all principle—and by setting at defiance every thing like right or decency, have all failed. But as a dying effort will be made,—and in every way which cunning, impudence, desperation and devilry can accomplish or devise, it is necessary that those who are fighting the battles of honour, liberty, and justice, should be on their guard—that no opening should appear in their ranks, and that all trifling and personal considerations should yield to those of the great cause in which are bound up all their own interests, and those of the race to which they belong. We have just as little fear of the result, as we have that blackguardism will extinguish the moral feelings; but we are anxious that the front and conduct opposed to the desperadoes should teach them at once that all their labour will be in vain.—*Scotsman*.

Ministerial Press in Scotland.—Various statements relating to the past mode of conducting the Ministerial press in Scotland, proceeding from various quarters, and many of them containing the most ungrounded and shameless assertions, have made their appearance since our last publication; but we have neither space nor time for setting the public right on these topics at present; nor, although we had both, would this have been the proper occasion. The parties we allude to must be allowed to flounder on a little longer, that they may work out their own shame and disgrace in a more complete manner. Had silence not been observed on some points of considerable moment, fewer risks would have been run by the enemy; but the day of disclosure cannot, we think, be very distant. We can assure our readers, in the meantime, that it will come; and that much remains to be told that bears on the great question, whether a conspiracy, variously ramified, has existed for some years in Scotland, to destroy the character and usefulness, and, if not the character, the *life* of every man who should display the slightest symptoms of independence? The public knew a great deal already, and they will, by and by, know more of the originators, supporters, and patrons of that system which made every man feel that he traced a job, exposed corruption, or denounced oppression at the risk of his life; and, with the facts which now stare every one in the face, it is for the public to say, whether an attempt has not been made to extend this system of intimidation and peril to Members of Parliament?

From the last portion of the Parliamentary reports, our readers will see that the Commons of England have felt it to be their duty to call Mr. John Hope, Advocate, son of the Lord President, and, though a very young lawyer, senior Advocate-Depute, and Mr. William Menzies, Advocate, and one of the Crown Counsel for Scotland, to their Bar. The object is to make these two parties answer for breach of privilege committed by them in the Letters which they had thought right to address to the Honourable James Abercromby, M. P. Mr. Courtenay, a Ministerial Member, brought the subject before the

House, which he called upon to consider well the spirit and language of the two letters. "To him it appeared that they formed a part of that fatal system which had of late been manifesting itself in this country, and which it was high time and most essential that the House should put down." Nobody here, of sane mind and unvitiated feeling, doubts the necessity which now lies upon the House of Commons, and we have just as little doubt that it will discharge its duty. It is well that the arm of that House has at length been felt in Scotland, which, as Mr. Grant recently observed, was fast becoming a country in which it was impossible that any gentleman could live. The MORNING CHRONICLE has made the following remarks on the debate respecting Messrs. Hope and Menzies:—

There needs no argument to shew the necessity for disowning, in every possible way, the system which this case involves. Public men must be protected from the violence of those whom, in the discharge of their duty, they feel themselves called upon to arraign. We do not say that individuals, wronged either by public speakers or public writers, ought to be precluded from having recourse to refutation, or even from indulging in the language of complaint. But when the refutation or remonstrance degenerates into personal insult, and what is generally understood to amount to a provocation to fight, general contempt and indignation ought to follow the offenders. We think that public men ought themselves to treat all such insults with contempt; and that, so far from their honour being at all implicated by this, such a course is positively prescribed by honour. They should consider, first, that they are setting a precedent injuries to other public men who may be misled by the authority of their example; and next, that they are thereby affording encouragement to all persons suffering from the exposure of their conduct, to make the attempt which in other cases, has been seen to be successful. The bullying system must neither be tolerated towards that House nor towards others.

It is lamentable to think that the guardianship of the laws of an industrious and intelligent country should have been entrusted to such a set of lawless Buccaneers, for they deserve no other title, as have lately been brought before the Bar of the Public. A more disgraceful production than the Letter of Mr. Hope could not well issue from any press; and we are glad to see that it was brought before the House, not by one of his opponents, but a Tory, who we hope and trust is not single in wishing to put down a system which strikes at the root of all decency and order.

Government of Marquis Wellesley.—The Irish Constables Bill and Insurrection Act are as good as passed; so ends, with the Tithe Leasing Bill, the first Session of the new vigorous Government, which has Marquis Wellesley for its head, and Mr. Goulburn for its strong right arm. The Tithe Leasing Bill, to be sure, is something like an acknowledgment of the extravagant have of tithes—a sort of confession wrung by the hand of death, that a starving country ought not to support so voluptuous a state in spiritual offices. This, though no medicine for the present, when hunger forbids the payment of tithes, may be good in time to come; for the other Bills, whether they are needed or not, they have but one tendency—to aggravate a state of evil already loathsome to contemplate. It is surprising how much good-natured and intelligent men seem to be led astray as to the cause of the distresses in Ireland. Mr. Monck, who has often proved the general humanity and justice of his views, attributes the evil to the redundant population, and the mean condition of existence with which the people are contended. He recommends that the landlords shall abate their rents to those tenants who will undertake to improve their condition of life, and acquire or adopt a taste for more of the decent comforts of existence. To the first of these propositions there is more than an answer in the complaints of the redundancy of Irish grain, and in his own allegation that the aggregate wealth of Ireland has increased four-fold. It is impossible that a country of increasing wealth can have at the same time too much food and too much population. As to the second grievance, that the Irish are content to eat potatoes—but for the inveteracy of the doctrines in political economy, one might appeal to the nature of government generally, and

ask how it ever could come to be named as a disgrace in a legislative assembly that the subjects of the sovereignty were too easily satisfied? That the fact is not literally true may be seen from this, that Irish labourers discover no hostility to being well clothed and fed on this side of the Channel; that they are too submissive under intolerable suffering might be a fit assertion for any one residing without the King's dominions, but within it could have strictly and rationally no other application than to countenance the breach of allegiance. It is in vain to refuse the meaning by saying, that the people ought, contemplating their extreme degradation, to take prudent and politic measures for rising out of the perdition in which they are fallen. It is not in the nature of things that this should happen. The whole intent and scope of the art of government is to do this work of reflection for them—in which, were they equal, they were able to govern themselves, without the expense of state or the trouble of Parliament. The increase of wealth and the redundancy of corn prove that the evil is not in the number or the manners of the people, for they have neither caused a dearth by profligate consumption, nor retarded the general prosperity by riot and destruction. The evil must be sought elsewhere—even in those regulations which give the resources of the country a wrong and unwholesome tendency in setting out from their source—which snatch every thing from the hard hands of labour in the outset, and accumulate a stock by the spoil only cumbersome and inconvenient to the general distribution of the produce while the labourers who grow it all are without any—

"And in the clustering vineyard grasp for thirst."

Affairs of Greece.—Some pointed questions were put upon the affairs of Greece last night, which drew the Noble Foreign Secretary farther into an explanation of his views that he wished to go. He is, as usual, full of the impolicy of meddling with Turks on behalf of men who practice such cruelties as the Greeks. This logic grows too transparent on the score of policy; the Ports lies at the mercy of any Christian Power who may choose to ask the most insulting concessions. At any rate, she is incapable of resentment. As to the Greeks, upon whom they are to a shew metey no one can guess. They are told honestly by the Turks, that they shall have their throats cut. They are engaged in a war in which, if they do not slay all their opposers, they are to be slain with tortures themselves. These are the stipulated conditions of the war. All the Ministerial Memoirs of Turkey, from before Mr. Elion's, of 1799, are full of the horrid slaying of those very Greeks for sport and pastime, while they were in direct subjection. Reasoning upon such a case is as fruitless as the affection of cunning politics in upholding the Turks is ridiculous. The Greeks must be free, because their chains are worn out, and the Noble Marquis would get no credit with Cardinal Mazarin, were he now alive, by ousting them.

Frankfort, July 4.—The negotiations now carrying on at Vienna are covered with so thick a veil, that nothing transpires either in the diplomatic circle or on 'Change.

Louanne, July 2.—At a moment when men, who doubtless have more courage than perseverance, return from Greece, and seem to take pleasure in spreading bad news, the brave General Normann writes from Tripoliga to his wife on the 3d of April. He was on his way to Rumelia, having obtained permission to give up the command of Navarino to a Greek. He thinks that the war will be long, but that all the Morea is lost to the Turks. He hopes he shall be able to offer his wife an agreeable abode in that fine country. He requests the Greek Committees in Switzerland to send especially soldiers provided with arms, and also to send arms to Calamata and Navarino, to be sold to the Greeks.

Brussels, July 11.—A series of most important projects of laws is going to be discussed in quick succession in the Second Chamber of the States General.

Underwriters at Lloyd's.—Many of the principal Underwriters at Lloyd's have refused to underwrite a ship now about to proceed from the Thames with warlike stores, direct to Turkey;

and have thereby strongly marked their abhorrence of the cause of the Barbarians.

Irish Insurrection Act.—The bill for continuing the Irish Insurrection Act has been read a second time in the House of Commons by a large majority. Ministers admit that the provisions of this act are arbitrary and unconstitutional; but they contend that the *urgent necessity* of the crisis renders its continuance indispensable! But, however urgent the necessity may have become, it is certainly not of very recent origin. The Insurrection Act is not a new measure. It is now upwards of *seven* years since the same plea was brought forward to justify its first enactment; and we are not aware that Ministers have, during the whole of this period, proposed any one measure calculated to avert this necessity! Had they acted differently—had they made, as was their duty, an honest, vigorous, and persevering effort to remove the most obvious of those causes of outrage and bloodshed by which Ireland has been so long disgraced, they might, in the event of its proving unsuccessful, have urged the necessity of the crisis. But they have done no such thing. They have allowed all the incentives to crime and outrage to increase both in number and violence; and have by this conduct contributed to increase the very disorders they are seeking unconstitutional powers to enable them to suppress. Whiteboy Acts and Insurrection Acts do not touch the causes of outrage and disorder; and until these have been removed we deny that there can be any necessity whatever to justify Ministers in carrying their provisions into effect. Before Legislators let loose the terrors of criminal justice on their subjects, they ought to be well assured that they have done every thing in their power to take away the temptations to commit crime. But the persons to whom the government of Ireland has been entrusted, seem always to have thought differently. Instead of correcting abuses, they have framed penal statutes. They have acted on a system of coercion, and not of conciliation. They appear in fact, to have supposed that the Irish were gratuitous ruffians—that they murdered and plundered for the mere love of excitement! It would be worse than idle to attempt to refute by argument opinions so obviously erroneous. Every one must see, that the different circumstances in which they are placed makes all the difference between the habits of the English and the Irish. The causes of outrage do not lie in the people, but in the vicious institutions of the country, and in the insolent, domineering, and rapacious conduct of the ruling sect. Let these institutions be reformed, and let an end be put to the heresies of the Catholics, and the people will reform their habits. But so long as *five sixths* of the people are considered as a degraded caste, and deprived of some of the most invaluable privileges of the constitution, and so long as the gross, flagrant, and scandalous abuses of the tithe system and the revenue laws are kept up, so long will there be a *necessity* for insurrection acts, and so long will the country be the theatre of civil war, and of the most sanguinary and brutal atrocities.

The distress of the Irish for want of food does not seem to be materially alleviated. We concur with Mr. STUART WORTLEY in thinking, that Government ought to grant such a sum as would suffice to purchase a sufficient supply of provisions. It is quite plain, that the unconstrained charity of individuals can afford no adequate resource.

Irish Press.—Though extremely limited for space, we cannot help contrasting with pride the good conduct of the Irish press, with the gross and literally indecent character of a portion of the periodical press of Scotland. There is enough of bitter party feeling, too much of it, unfortunately, amongst us; but there is scarcely an instance of the flagitious and personal slander in which this *most moral people* of the empire have for years indulged.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

Police, Mansion House.—Yesterday (Aug. 20) Mr. Alley, the barrister, attended the Justice-room, for the purpose of preferring a serious charge against an army agent (a bankrupt), at the instance of an officer of marines, who some time ago lost a leg and thigh in the service of his country, and now complained of being stripped of his only recompence—his prize money.

Application had been previously made to the Lord Mayor upon the subject, and his Lordship sent a summons to the army agent, requiring his attendance at the Justice-room.

Mr. Alley waited much beyond the time generally expected from the patience of professional men, but the army-agent did not make his appearance to answer the charge. His solicitor, however, attended, and was very anxious to know the precise nature of the imputation against his client. Mr. Alley said, he knew no attorney in this case. It was the duty of the accused to attend the summons. That, however, there might be no mistake in this matter, he should not hesitate to state, that his client charged the army agent with having defrauded him of 2,000l. & per cent. stock—a crime subject to the penalty of transportation. The presence of the defendant was the only thing necessary, to enable the Lord Mayor to come to a decision on the case, as the depositions could now be made to the most satisfactory extent.

The Solicitor wished to see the depositions which were said to warrant the representation that fraud had been committed.

Mr. Alley ridiculed such a mode of proceeding, as wholly incompatible with professional practice, and desired that the name of the person summoned should be called.

The name having been called, and no answer returned, the Solicitor stated, that he knew the object of the complainant, in this case, was to hold up the defendant to public exposure. He added, that he saw no reason, except the Lord Mayor declared his opinion in the affirmative, why his client should be present on this occasion, there being no distinct charge against him. If his Lordship expressly desired it, the defendant should make his appearance at any time.

Mr. Alley said the defendant had been treated with great lenity in having received a summons instead of being compelled to attend upon a warrant. But as mild treatment had no effect, and the authority of the chief magistrate, so far as it had been exercised, had produced no consequences, another measure should be resorted to.

The Solicitor here strongly denied that any fraud had been practised, and said that a gentleman was in the Justice-room, who was ready to be bail for the defendant to any amount.

Mr. Alley said, the case was one which could not be bailed. He again animadverted upon the absence of the defendant, and declared that the unfortunate gentleman who had been defrauded was almost a ruined man, in consequence of his reliance upon the integrity of the accused.

The Lord Mayor said, that nothing could be done without the presence of the army agent, against whom he certainly could not think of issuing a warrant without the regular affidavits, a representation having been made by the Solicitor to that party, which gave the imputation a different cast from that which it had just received.

The Solicitor stated, that he knew the complainant was a great sufferer by the bankruptcy, but he most solemnly declared that the case was far from being one of felony.

Mr. Alley then gave notice, that the affidavits should be drawn up, and that the defendant might expect a warrant.

This case excited great interest, and will come on in a few days for the decision of the Lord Mayor. The complainant was ready to make his deposition before his Lordship, but it was thought more advisable to have the affidavits drawn up in the customary form, and to compel the attendance of the defendant by a warrant.

Lord Byron.—The forthcoming new works of Lord Byron are said to be, *Werner, or The Inheritance*, a drama, in five acts; and *Heaven and Earth*, a Mystery, founded on the following passage in Genesis chap. vi. "And it came to pass, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were fair; and they took them wives of all whom they chose."

Half a Memory.—Gibbon, in the account which he gives of his college life, tells us that on the departure of Dr. Waldegrave to a living in Sussex, he was transferred, with his other pupils,

to his academical heir, whose literary character did not command the respect of the college. "Dr. ***," says he, well remembered that he had a salary to receive, and only forgot that he had a duty to perform." It is surprising how many seem to have been born into the world with only half a memory.

Worship Street.—*The Rev. William Eyre.*—In pursuance of his commitment on Monday last, the prisoner was brought again this day (Aug. 20) before Samuel Twyford and John Milward, Esqrs., for re-examination.

No further testimony as to the facts was produced or required, for the prisoner was remanded upon a doubt which arose in the mind of one of the worthy magistrates, Mr. Twyford, as to the extent of his jurisdiction to commit for trial in a case where all the facts proved were done in Buckinghamshire, a county over which his commission as a magistrate did not extend.

Mr. Wilks appeared again on the part of the parish, and urged the competency of a magistrate to commit to Newgate for felonies, although the facts proved took place in another county, for which the magistrate could not act as a justice.

Mr. Heritage, the chief clerk, stated that the practice of the office had always been, that the magistrate, in cases similar to this, had committed to Newgate, and then the prisoner had been removed for trial into the county where the felony was committed.

Mr. Twyford said, that he had no doubt of the practice pursued at this and the other police offices, but he very much doubted of the legality of that practice. The office of justice of the peace, as now constituted, was created by statute, and therefore, in his opinion, the regulations of its duties could not depend upon custom. It was his wish in this, and all cases of a public nature, to suit by his conduct the convenience of parties; but in a case where he entertained such doubts of his jurisdiction, he felt bound, as a conservator of the peace, to send the prisoner to a magistrate in the county of Buckingham.

Mr. Milward concurred in opinion with his brother magistrate as to the principle of law to which he adverted; but if the facts of this case had come originally under his own examination, he should have felt warranted from the practice so long pursued, and assented to by higher authorities, to have committed the prisoner to Newgate, in order that he might be afterwards removed for trial into Buckinghamshire.

Mr. Wilks then suggested that he had communicated with Mr. Minshull, the magistrate, who was in the commission also for Buckinghamshire. Mr. Minshull had expressed a degree of surprise that the legality of the practice should be doubted; but, if necessary, he would attend at this office on a future day; and as the evidence being adduced before him, and he should think it sufficient, he would commit the prisoner at once to the gaol for the county of Buckingham.

Mr. Twyford readily assented to this proposition, and the prisoner was committed for further examination.

The prisoner, during this consultation, was seated on a chair in the parlour. He was genteelly dressed, but appeared wholly indifferent to the proceedings against him. The office was crowded with persons, particularly women, who appeared extremely indignant.

Many respectable persons were there out of Buckinghamshire, at whose hospitable boards the prisoner had been entertained with all the kindness they could show to their spiritual pastor; and amongst them an old man, who seemed the representative of plain Honesty, and who had drank his glass and smoked his pipe with this clergyman, at the Royal Oak, near Wing. They all seemed to consider the charge against him almost incredible. The old man expressed his intention to appear on the prisoner's trial, and to prove that he slept at his house several nights, and that the children slept by themselves at the Park-house, at Wing.

PARLIAMENTARY.

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Emperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS, MONDAY, JULY 15, 1822.

Their Lordships met at ten o'clock.

APPEAL

SIR GERARD NOEL NOEL, BART. Appellant; ROCHFORT, Respondent.

The Attorney-General and Mr. Wingfield were heard for the Appellant; and Mr. Hart in part for the Respondent.—Further hearing postponed.

ROYAL ASSENT.

At a quarter before four o'clock the Lords Commissioners, the LORD CHANCELLOR, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, and Lord REDESDALE, dressed in their robes, took their seats on the Woolsack.

The LORD CHANCELLOR directed the Deputy Usher of the Black Rod to inform the House of Commons their presence was required in order to hear his Majesty's Assent given by Commission to several Bills. In a few minutes the Speaker, attended by several Members of the House of Commons, arrived, when the Royal Assent was given to the following Bills:—The Five per Cent. Repayment Bill; the Corn Importation Bill; the Crown Lands (Ireland) Bill; the Register Offices (Scotland) Bill; the County Rates (Westmorland) Bill; and four private Bills. The Speaker and the other Members of the House of Commons then retired.

Sir James Graham, and other Members of the House of Commons, brought up the London Bridge Water-works Bill; and the Distilleries (Scotland) Drawback Bill, which were read a first time.

Sir James Graham, Mr. Keeney, and other Members of the House of Commons, brought up the Duke of Marlborough's Estate Bill, and the Bankrupts Joint Commission Bill, with a Message that that House had agreed to them.

MASACRE OF THE GREEKS.

EARL GROSVENOR said, seeing the Noble Earl (Liverpool) in his place he wished to ask him if he had any objection to lay on the table extracts of the dispatches received from our Minister at Constantinople, relative to the execution of the Greek hostages, which had taken place at Constantinople? If he had an objection to laying them on the table without a regular notice of motion, he would give that notice for a future day.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL said, that the subject was of such great importance that he could not agree that it should be submitted to their Lordships without regular notice being given.

Earl GROSVENOR then gave notice that he would move for certain extracts of the dispatches on Wednesday next.

The Loan Bill, the Charge of Pensions Bill, the Growing Produce, and the Excise Licences Bills, were severally read the third time.

SOUTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENT STATES.

The Marquis of LANSDOWN said, it would be in the recollection of their Lordships that ten days ago he wished to put a question to the Noble Earl at the head of the Treasury, if he had been in his place, respecting the relative situation of this country and the Independent States of South America. It was necessary for the commercial interest of this country to know on what foundation they could trade with South America. It must be known to all their Lordships that a British vessel coming from South America had been captured by one of the Spanish armadas, carried into a Spanish port, and condemned, which made it more necessary to know what regulation had been made on the subject. It was necessary to have an assurance from his Majesty's Government, if they were not to be viewed as free States, whether the trade to and from them was not to be protected. They had been virtually given up by the Spanish Government, and the ships of that Government had surrendered themselves to the States. He wished to speak respectfully of the Government of Old Spain, but if they arrogated too much he must withdraw that respect.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL said it would have been more satisfactory if the Noble Marquis had specified the vessel he alluded to, but he believed he referred to the ship *Lorn Collingwood*, which ship had been off Buenos Ayres, where there was a pretended blockade, but in fact there was none, as there were no ships to enforce it. So the matter stood until a short time back. The condemnation of the ship came over not officially, but by private means, when it appeared that the condemnation of the ship had not taken place on the ground of the blockade, but on account of piratical practices and conduct. Remonstrances had been made by this Government to the Government of Spain, and the ship had been released. As to the general subject of the trade between this country and the South American States, this country, from the

years 1818 and 1819, had derived many benefits from its trade with these States; this country offered to become the mediator between them and the mother country, and it was refused by the latter, at the same time there was always an understanding with the Government of Spain, those States which had a temporary independence, this country was at liberty to trade with, and in case of their independence being reversed, that British property should be respected. In the present year a great change had taken place in the laws of this country as it related to foreign commerce, for ships of all countries might trade to all our foreign possessions, which made the trade of the South American States legitimate; the trade, therefore, between them and this country was as lawful as between this and any other nation, and it was their duty to see it fully carried into effect. As to the question of their having a nearer political connexion with the States of South America, it was not one that he would think himself justified in answering; but he knew there were negotiations going on with the Government of Spain, the result of which he hoped, would be favourable.

The Marquis of LANSDOWN said that the time would soon arrive when they would be glad to admit the independence of the States, and it would be more grateful to the latter if it was done without negotiations with Spain. He wished to know if the Noble Earl had any objection to lay before their Lordships the copy of the remonstrance on the condemnation of the ship?

The Earl of LIVERPOOL did not think it would be correct to acquiesce in the request of the Noble Marquis. He considered it the duty to this Government to take care of the rights of belligerent countries, and by so doing they would protect the rights of all parties.

The Marquis of LANSDOWN said he would feel it his duty to move for the copy of the remonstrance on a future day.

On the motion of the Earl of LAUDERDALE, the Order of the Day for going into a Committee on the Seatch Jury Bill was discharged, and renewed for Wednesday next.

ALE HOUSE LICENSES BILL.

On the motion of Lord AUCKLAND, their Lordships resolved themselves into a Committee on the above Bill.

EARL BATHURST objected to the clause which transferred the right of refusing licenses from the Magistrates to the Quarter Sessions.

Their Lordships divided, when there appeared for the clause—

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The other clauses were then agreed to, and the Report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

The Fees of Courts' Bill and the Annuities Memorial Bill went through a Committee.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, MONDAY, JULY 15, 1822.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at the usual hour, and immediately after was summoned to the House of Lords, to hear the Royal assent given by Commission to a number of public and private Bills (for which see Lords' report).

BEER RETAIL BILL.

MR. LUSHINGTON presented a Petition from the Publicans and Victuallers of Canterbury, praying that the Beer Retail Bill might not pass into a law.—Laid on the table.

MR. URE presented similar Petitions from Weymouth and Dorchester.—Laid on the table.

MR. MARRYATT presented similar Petitions from Sandwich and Deal.—Laid on the table.

MR. BUTTERWORTH presented three Petitions to the same effect: one from the publicans of Reading, the others from Gloucester and Berkshire.—Laid on the table.

MR. BLACKBURNE presented several Petitions to the same effect from Manchester and other places in Lancashire.—Laid on the table.

MR. BYNG presented similar Petitions from the Publicans of Twickenham and Hammersmith.—Laid on the table.

MR. BERNAL presented a similar Petition from the Publicans of the County of Kent.—Laid on the table.

SIR WILLIAM ROWLEY presented a similar Petition from the County of Suffolk.—Laid on the table.

MR. BERNAL presented two Petitions to the same effect from Dartmouth.

The Greenland Fishery Bill went through a Committee.—The Report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

The East India Sugar Bill went through a Committee.—The Report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

SMUGGLERS.

Mr. BENNETT (Wiltshire) presented a Petition from five individuals confined in the gaol of Yarmouth. They complained that they had been seized by the captain of an English cruiser, and carried to Yarmouth gaol, although their vessel carried Dutch colors, and they considered such a practice contrary to the laws of nations.—Laid on the table.

Dr. LUSHINGTON stated, such an act as represented in the Petition was a violation of the laws of the land, and even if a law sanctioning that practice had been passed by the Legislature, it would have been an infraction of the laws of nations. He, therefore, considered these individuals unlawfully imprisoned.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY said these individuals should resort to the ordinary tribunals of the country, before they applied to Parliament. In answer to a question put on a former evening by an Honourable and Learned Gentleman opposite (Sir James Mackintosh), he wished to state, that he had inquired into the transaction relative to the detention of the *Lord Collingwood*. He had made an application to our Minister at Madrid, and he stated that the Court of Spain did not sanction any law which would warrant the detention of the vessel.

Sir J. MACKINTOSH said he was sure that the answer of the Noble Lord must be satisfactory to all persons connected with the commercial interests.

GREECE AND TURKEY.

Sir J. MACKINTOSH said he held in his hand a Petition, which, although it was the first which had been presented to the House, could not fail of receiving due consideration. It was a Petition couched in very decorous, although in very warm language; in such language, indeed, as the nature of the subject suggested. It was a Petition from certain inhabitants of the county of Lancaster, complaining of "the inhuman massacre of our Christian brethren, the Greeks, by the bloody barbarians, the Turks." He was sure that the opinions of the people would have been manifested at a more early period, but for the difficulty which was felt as to the possibility of adopting some measure of relief. He was ready to admit that there never was a moment when any violation of general tranquillity would be a greater calamity to this country. But he had no doubt that if a simultaneous effort of the different powers in Europe was made, the evil would be averted. What the disposition of these cabinets might be, he was not sufficiently acquainted with the secrets of their policy to be able to state; but this he could say, that it would be honourable to the British Government, and of the national character, even to fail in the attempt.—(cheers.)

Mr. HUME wished to take that opportunity of asking the Noble Marquis, whether there were any truth in a statement now very generally circulated; namely, that some of the unfortunate Greeks were refused, at the instance of the British Government, admission into the Ionian Islands, where they fled for protection from their murderers? and he also wished to know why a Turkish frigate, now fitting up at Deptford, and preparing to take out warlike implements to Turkey, should not come within the provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Bill?

Mr. WILLMOT said he was quite unaware that any measure had been adopted by the Government of the Ionian Islands to deny admission to the Greeks; but at the same time he was not prepared to say that they would be allowed to flock over there in numbers, and remain there. However, there could be no truth in the statement that they were excluded from motives of inhumanity. With respect to the second question, his Honorable Friend (Mr. Croker) who was not now in his place, would be the most competent person to give an answer.

The Hon. C. HUTCHINSON said he could not allow that opportunity to pass, without expressing his astonishment that some steps were not taken to stop the murder of the Greeks in Europe. He should certainly at all times consider war as one of the greatest calamities, except when peace could only be maintained on dishonourable terms. He was ready to give his Majesty's Ministers the fullest credit for their exertions at Constantinople to preserve peace between Russia and Turkey; but if the objects of these negotiations were only to enable one Power to commit what havoc she pleased, and effect the entire destruction of the Greeks, he had no hesitation to proclaim them disgraceful and anti-christian. (hear, hear.) He therefore called upon the House not to consent to any prolongation until his Majesty's Government stated fairly upon their honour, as British subjects and British Ministers, whether by the arrangement made between Russia and Turkey any security had been agreed on to preserve the oppressed and unfortunate Greeks from general massacre. If they had not, their conduct would merit and must receive the execration of posterity. (hear, hear, hear.) He well knew, that in the present suffering condition of the country,

the man who raised his voice for war within those walls would be regarded with horror; but he would tell the people of England, suffering and grieved as they were, that the maintenance of peace was neither secure nor honourable. To his Majesty's Ministers he appealed not, for he knew their councils were leagued with those of the Continent; but he would ask an Hon. Gentleman whom he saw opposite, and he would appeal to the good, and the learned, and enlightened like him, whether they could expect the blessings of Providence whilst such transactions were allowed to pass with impunity. (hear, hear.) He sincerely trusted that the example of these Petitioners would be generally followed, and that the table would soon be covered with Petitions, in order to rouse Parliament from their unbecoming lethargy, and stop the effusion of human blood.—(cheers.)

Mr. WILBERFORCE said, that no man sympathised more fully than he did with the sufferings of the Greeks, and none was more deeply impressed with the necessity of making some effort to put a stop to them; and although he felt that to engage in war was not the line of policy which this country should pursue, yet he knew of no cause in which the British nation could be more honourably engaged than in the support of that most oppressed nation.—(hear, hear.)

Lord LONDONDERRY said it must be obvious to every one that this was a very improper moment for entering upon the discussion of a question of such vast extent and importance. It really was marvellous how the lovers of peace did sometimes advocate doctrines and opinions, which, if adopted, must necessarily lead to a most disastrous and sanguinary war. The Hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Hutchinson) had done extreme injustice to the English Government if he supposed that their efforts were merely directed to preserve peace between Russia and Turkey. But would it be politic for England to take up arms to administer justice between the Turks and the Greeks? As far as counsel could go to give to these said transactions a tone of humanity and liberal warfare, he could assure the House that the Government of this country have not been backward, and their efforts had been seconded by the other great Powers in Europe. The conflict was marked, on the part of the Greeks, with a ferocity and cruelty which it was painful to contemplate, and which were as disgraceful as any thing charged to the Court of Constantinople.—Don't let Hon. Members, in their zeal to put down the tide of inhumanity, attribute more crime to one side than the other. There were instances of extreme cruelty in the history of other nations—as in the transactions of almost all civil wars—not excepting our own; but there was, perhaps, never such systematic cruelty practised between two conflicting Powers before. He cautioned Members against undervaluing the strength and resources of this great country in a crusade, where there were no regulations strong enough to reduce the disturbed elements of civil order—a crusade, too, which must be carried on in a distant country, and on behalf of a people among whom all the element of discord were raging.

Sir R. WILSON, well knowing the insignificance of the Turkish power from examination and the concurrent experience of considerable military commanders, thought that any dread of it as a matter of policy must be ridiculous. It was well known that Scanderberg, with 20,000 men, kept them in awe for 20 years together. There was enough of public spirit in this country, if not interrupted by the Government, to assure the Greeks, resolutely and perseveringly as they acted, and in every way worthy of the spirit of old Greece, of entire success eventually. At any rate, let the Noble Lord give directions to his Government in the Ionian Isles to preserve an exact neutrality. This country was strongly suspected, in consequence of the deportment of that Government, of partiality to the Turks. The proof of this lay in no Greek representatives having been sent here by the new Government—the only instance of the kind among all the new Governments which had sprung up—though, on the other hand, in no instance had any of the representatives of those new Governments failed to discover that their first confidence in the generosity of the British Government had been misplaced.

Lord A. HAMILTON remarked on the entire incapability of the Holy Alliance to do any thing to put down the atrocious butchery of the Greek Christians, or to do any thing on behalf of their liberty, though they had themselves been efficacious enough in damaging liberty elsewhere. He did not believe, from what he had heard on all sides, that neutrality was observed in the Ionian Isles.

Sir R. WILSON asked if the Greek flag would be respected by British Commanders in the same manner as the South American flag, on the footing of neutral intercourse?

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY said, that as far as he knew, the strictest neutrality had been observed by the Government of the Ionian Isles, and there could be no better proof of it than that we were equally suspected of partiality by the Turks and Greeks. The British ships of war in the Mediterranean had respected the Greek as much as the Turkish flag. It was competent to any Government to make their own arrangements in their own parts in regard to belligerents, provided that they observed the same regulations to both Powers. He would not

now stop to debate the question as to whether Greece was a power properly recognised as such.

The Petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. BERNAL presented two Petitions from Publicans, of the Towns of Boston and Warrington, against the Beer Retailing Bill.—Laid on the table.

Mr. WESTERN presented 12 similar Petitions, signed by the public-house keepers of almost every town in Essex. He hoped some attention would be given to the Petitions; though being favourable to the principle of the Bill, he would certainly vote for sending it to a Committee.

Mr. BROUGHAM wished for all proper attention to be paid to the representations of the Petitioners, who were, let it be observed, all, one character-licensed victuallers—("And brewers")—and brewers undoubtedly. As to the brewers, it was easy to believe that they signed the Petitions themselves of their own free will, and without any constraining whatsoever. He had some reason for believing that the case was not so plain on the part of the victuallers. He had got a letter in his possession from one of them, who subscribed his name, and gave the sign of his house and the name of the town it stood in. The House would give him credit for the authenticity without revealing particulars. The writer said, "I have just been visited by my brewer's clerk, who very much pressed me to sign a paper, which he said would be of great benefit to me as to the retailing of beer. As I know nothing of the purport of it, I declined signing it. I understand that they have since signed it for me as they do for all those who are not to be frightened into a compliance." There was another part of the paper, which was subscribed "by the undersigned brewers and licensed publicans." The Parties declared their belief that the brewers were forcing a Petition against a Bill which would benefit the victuallers and the public greatly by abolishing the monopoly.

Mr. WESTERN presented a Petition from Highbury and the neighbourhood against the Highgate Chapel Bill, which was referred to the Committee thereupon, and the Petitioners obtained leave to be heard by their Counsel against the Bill.

Mr. HUME presented a Petition from the Inhabitants of Knightsbridge, Chelsea, and neighbourhood, complaining of the inadequacy of the County Court to try the great number of causes referred thither. He was happy to know that the subject would be referred to a committee the next Session.—Laid on the table.

Sergeant ONSLOW presented a Petition from parties residing in Kingston-on-Thames and Ripley, against the Beer Retailing bill.

Mr. BROUGHAM remarked that these Petitions were very like the rest—from parties either directly or remotely interested. He said that in a town where he slept last night, and was curious enough to inquire, he found that of 49 public-houses, there was only one free. He summed up the arguments against the Bill to these two:—first, that the public would get better beer from other quarters than they now obtained from the brewers—second, that it would injure the licensed houses, because men would prefer sending their daughters to a chandler's shop for beer than to the less decent circle of a publican's bar. He thought these objections destroyed themselves by their own new injustice and morality.

Mr. WODEHOUSE presented a similar Petition from the publicans of Bath—They were laid on the table.

Mr. CROKER presented a similar Petition from a Mr. Grigg, a brewer at Portsmouth.—Laid on the table.

Sir R. WILSON gave notice of a motion for next Session on behalf of the Member for Cumberland, for an inquiry into the manner of dismissing Colonel Wood from the service.

The Irish Constables Bill received the addition of various amendments, and was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

INSURRECTION ACT (IRELAND.)

The order of the Day for the third reading of the Irish Insurrection Act was then read.

Mr. C. HUTCHINSON wished to give his opinion on this measure, which he had been only prevented from doing by his desire to quit the views of the Gentlemen of Ireland, who thought the Bill necessary. He would not be thought to feel less horror at the outrages committed, or less anxiety to see order restored; but it was time, now that the measures of the Irish government were near their accomplishment, to see what they amounted. They were all resolved into three—the Constables Bill—the Tithe Leasing Bill—and the second time of passing the Insurrection Act. Did Ministers flatter themselves they had hereby done enough for the peace and welfare of Ireland? He contended that they had done nothing, that they had entirely failed in their duty, if they should stop there—if they were still determined to refuse that inquiry which had been so long and loudly called for. He really had

been led from the speech of the Noble Marquis early in the Session, to suppose that the inquiry would have been undertaken. Handed back to the description given of the distress of Irish affairs, at the Union, by Mr. Pitt, and the flattering promises of remedy for all their difficulties, by the measures of a British Parliament. How had all the promises been realized? The answer lay in the Martial Law enforced—in the Habeas Corpus Act suspended—in the Insurrection Act thus enacted. In no case was there an attempt to redeem these promises. He did not accuse Ministers with producing the famine now raging in Ireland; he could not even blame them for not emancipating the Catholics and commuting the tithes, though they ought to have done both; but he did quarrel with them for not examining into the state of Ireland. He admitted that to cure the evils of centuries of misgovernment was an herculean task; but after the promise made in the King's Speech, he had thought that inquiry could not be withheld. In what part of England would Ministers dare to apply the Insurrection Act as a measure of relief to great national calamity? He was disposed to think highly of the talents of Marquis Wellesley; but he must judge him as all other Ministers by his acts. It was his duty to be jealous constantly of all public men. He admitted the boon of the window tax, and the great and generous effort made by this country for Ireland. He did not wish to unburden the obligation—though he must declare that the Irish were not to be looked on as mendicants begging alms. It was the duty of Parliament to vote them as much as was necessary for staying the grievous horrors of their famine. Those evils were not yet stationary, more must be done, and by other means than by this Bill. Transportation and death were not proofs of strong Government—they were only miserable expedients, which proved the absence of all Government. What he dreaded most among the effects of this Bill, was the insults to which females would be exposed. Irish cabins consisted of two, sometimes of one room, where the whole family slept, though with the most respectful observance of decency. He had seen on some occasions the women turned out of their beds, under this Act, by the soldiery, in a state of utter nudity, and subjected to all kinds of insult, while they were searching for their prisoners. He had repeatedly urged the necessity for inquiry, and the inadequacy of these coercive projects for healing the sufferings of Ireland, and finished by declaring his dissent to the Bill.

Mr. MONCK saw nothing in the Bill which went to the root of the evils—which he believed were not in the taxes, not in the tithes, but in the very redundant population, and the very low condition of life—laying somewhat about half-way between savage and civilized life. He felt sure that while the people of Ireland were content to live upon potatoes, and confine existence on the worst possible conditions, their case must be what the Baronet who represents Westminister described it, a moral pestilence. He thought that the landlords alone could work a change by giving up a part of their rents, on condition that the tenants should take up a more respectable mode of living, and so inculcate in them a taste for the decent comforts of existence. It was, not for want of means that these calamities came. The wealth of Ireland had been quadrupled within 30 years. He did not approve of the poor laws being planted there. They would carry down the other classes to the same level, without abating their misery.

Colonel TRENCH was sorry to agree with the Hon. Gentleman. There could be no solid benefit derived but from the landlords, who must free their tenants from the oppressions of intermediate agents, and watch over them with more of paternal care. He was glad of the advance which had been made towards a commutation of tithes. They must also adopt some plan for educating the poor, and reducing the number of absences, by instituting them in the Magistracy. He denied that they were unfit for that trust, or that the Irish peasants were unfit for civilization. There was a keenness of intelligence about the low Irish—an Athenian quickness in the perception of all subjects which few English Gentlemen could comprehend. He gave great credit to the efforts of the Hibernian Society in their endeavours to teach and improve them. He pointed out the evils of the Excise Laws, which were constructed as to make it a glory and emulation among armies of young men to oppose the execution of them with destructive violence. He recommended the licensing of small stills, which would do away this evil, and benefit the revenue. He approved of this and all the other measures which had been taken to restore tranquillity.

Mr. WILBERFORCE expatiated on the difficulties of leading the Irish into the way of civilization, and recommended Irish Members to be constant and persevering in their duties towards their constituents.

Mr. MARTIN (Galway) observed, that although it had been said that if the Government of Ireland was not foiled in its first measures, all would be well, the three first measures that were proposed by that Government, viz. the Tithe Leasing Bill, the Irish Constables Bill, and the Insurrection Act, had met with the most decided opposition from Gentlemen on the opposite side of the House. He then proceeded to comment on an amendment that had been moved in the Constables Bill, to exclude the appointment of salary paid Magistrates, and was content

that in the present state of the magistracy, it was in vain for a poor man to apply to a Magistrate for redress, if aggrieved by a rich man; and that the salary paid Magistrates would always be found the friend of the poor, when

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY reminded the Hon. Member that he was wandering from the question.

Mr. MARTIN said, he was sorry if he had departed from the point of the discussion, and in so doing, perhaps, he had "shot his arrow o'er the house top, and wounded his friend." In the present circumstances of the country a man, if brought to trial before a regular tribunal, must be tried either by a jury of sufferers, or by a jury of partisans; and he would submit it to any Gentleman from Ireland whether a man charged with an offence against this Act would not prefer being tried by a Learned Sejeant and a Bench of Magistrates to being tried by a jury of the vicinity. The Insurrection Act would remove all the impediments to the course of justice which the present state of the country imposed, and he therefore gave it his support.

Mr. W. SMITH considered this Act, upon the whole, to be in practice a measure of mercy. He concurred in opinion that the spirit of disturbance in Ireland ought to be put down; and he should most readily concur in arming the Government with extraordinary powers for that purpose, if he could forget the most abominable manner in which those practices were exercised on a former occasion, and that the abuses and atrocities then committed had been sheltered by an Indemnity Act, which it was a shame for the Government to have asked and for the Parliament to have passed. He was, however, the farthest man in the world from attributing to the persons at present charged with the Government of Ireland the slightest disposition to abuse those powers. He gave them credit for the best views and the purest intentions, and he trusted they would not stretch the power with which this Act invested them, beyond the limits contemplated by Parliament. He believed that no good was to be hastily done towards the improvement of Ireland, after the long course of misgovernment which it had experienced on the one hand, and the misconduct arising out of that misgovernment on the other. He looked mainly to the effects of the diffusion of knowledge by means of an improved and extended system of education for the amelioration of the habits and condition of the people; and if fifty years hence the country should have made an approach to that state in which it was desirable that it should be placed, he feared it was as much as could be hoped for. Great talents; great wit, and a variety of good qualities, he often heard attributed to the people of Ireland, and, he believed, not without reason; but he lamented to say, and the fault was in the system of Government which had so long been pursued in that country; they seemed to possess with a large portion of the virtues, a large share of the vices also of slaves.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY said that the present measure was one of those which had been framed by Parliament for the express propose of placing the extraordinary powers which it might be occasionally necessary to confer on the Government of Ireland under regulation. At that period to which the Hon. Member (Mr. W. Smith) had in so extraordinary a manner alluded, there was no Insurrection Act in existence; no measure which had been framed by Parliament to place extraordinary powers in the hands of the Government; but the country was under martial law, under which there was no limit to the powers exercised by those in authority; and though there were many instances of an extreme exercise of power on that occasion, which could not be viewed but with regret, it should be recollect that they were resorted to by parties in self-defence from a system of outrage and violence too powerful for the law (*hear, hear,*) and to cope with which no adequate power defined and limited by law were given. (*hear.*) With respect to the Bill of Indemnity which the Hon. Member had spoken of in terms of censure, he (Lord L.) could take to himself neither shame nor disgrace for the part he had in that measure; on the contrary, he repented in the conviction of having discharged his duty and he should have felt himself for ever disgraced, both as a man and a Minister, if after having brought down a Bill whereby a full pardon was granted to all those who were engaged in acts of rebellion in Ireland (*hear, hear, hear,*) if he had not also brought down a Bill to indemnify the Magistrates and other loyal inhabitants of the country from legal responsibility for any acts done by them in their endeavours towards repressing rebellion, which might have exceeded the strict bounds of law. (*hear.*) But let not the Hon. Member suppose that any Act thus passed had reference to any particular case, or was connected with the name of any individual. It was passed entirely with reference to the general state in which the country had been placed; and he should wish to know what would have been thought of the Government, if, in extending a general amnesty to the open and avowed violators of the law, it had neglected to provide for the protection of those who, in repressing the disturbance and outrage, had outstepped the ordinary bounds of their legal power? (*hear, hear.*)

Mr. D. BROWNE said no man was more anxious to preserve for Ireland the full benefit of the English constitution, but he lamented to

say that the state of that country at present was such as to require the application of the powers conferred by this Act. He deplored the unfortunate condition of his country. If he looked at the whole law of Ireland, he found it instead of a law of protection, a system of proscription. He might perhaps be asked, why then he consented to the application of additional measures of severity to the people who openly resisted such oppressive laws? His answer was, because he wished to prevent a revolution, which might separate the two countries; and he called upon the Gentlemen of England to assist in the endeavour.

Mr. S. RICE said, he should have supposed, from the reasoning of the Noble Lord, that the passing of the Indemnity Bill had taken place before the introduction of the Insurrection Act in Ireland, but as far as his memory served him, that Act was first brought in the year 1796. He concurred with his Honourable Friend (Mr. W. Smith) in reprobation of that Indemnity Bill, and of every proceeding of a similar description. But he deprecated the introduction into the debate as matter of reproach of topics which should never be recurred to, except to serve as a guidance in the adoption of measures under similar circumstances. There was a subject intimately connected with the removal of the disturbances in Ireland—he meant the reform of the magistracy, respecting which he had been waiting with much anxiety to hear from his Majesty's Government, not only that the matter was under consideration, but that a measure which had been stated to have been two years ago nearly matured, was at last ready for adoption, and that the reform of the magistracy was about to take place. Respecting the Act under consideration, he wished to hear the opinion of the Right Hon. the Attorney-General of Ireland, whether, under the clause of this Act, the county magistrates were empowered to act for the purposes of the Act within the limits of towns and counties of towns; and if it should appear that they were not, he would in the next stage of the Bill move a clause for the appointment of justices of the peace for enforcing the provisions of the Act within their limits.

Mr. W. SMITH explained that the Act of Indemnity, to which he had alluded, was not an Act of the Irish Parliament, but the Act, cap. 103 or 4, passed in the year 1801, in the English Parliament, of which he still thought as he had before expressed himself.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY explained; that he had taken the Honourable Member to have spoken of the Act of the Irish Parliament.

General HART contended, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had the means in his power to put down the disturbances in Ireland in a great degree for he maintained the discontent caused by the refusal of Catholic Emancipation, or even by the tithe system, was nothing at all to that caused by the distillery laws, to which he had in vain applied his endeavours to procure an amendment, ever since he had the honour of a seat in Parliament. The system of robbery and injustice which was carried on in the levying of townland dues for illicit distillation was oppressive and irritating in the highest degree. He had put into the hands of the Commissioners of Inquiry into the mode of collecting the revenue in Ireland, a document to guide their inquiries on that head, and if they should not point out a remedy, he should feel it his duty to move in the course of the next Session for a Committee to inquire into that particular.

Mr. PLUNKETT, in answer to the question of the Hon. Member for Limerick, said he had no doubt whatever that the County Magistrates had the powers he had alluded to, under this Act; for the 23d section expressly authorized them to exercise their powers, except in the County of the City of Dublin; and the next section gave all the powers given to the Magistrates of Counties under this Act, to the Magistrates of Cities, and Counties of Cities likewise.

Mr. H. G. BENNETT said he could join in the opinion that when Parliament was called upon to pass severe laws, it was not perfectly prudent, and just, and wise, to direct its attention to what had formerly been done under measures of a similar nature. It was not with any disposition to rekindle animosities, that Gentlemen on his side of the House alluded to those things, but in order to point them out as transactions not to be imitated, but to be avoided; and he never could suffer measures of severity to pass with respect to Ireland, without recalling the transactions of former periods, to caution the House against unnecessarily persevering in a course of severity. The whole Session had been passed in one continued perpetration of acts of severity on the people of Ireland; and the Legislators had done nothing to remedy any one of their grievances, or to lighten any one of their burdens, with the solitary exception of the remission of the window tax.

Mr. GOULEBURN said he would tell the Hon. Member for Shrewsbury (Mr. H. G. Bennett) that the Irish Government called for this measure to prevent that country from being plunged into a situation similar to that of the period to which he had alluded, and to secure it from a recurrence of the atrocities and outrages of every description that marked that period. To have withheld this Act at the commencement of the Session would have been to plunge the country into a state

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of open rebellion, and have led unavoidably to the renewal of those horrors which the Hon. Member deprecated. It was not to gratify any bad feeling, but because it was necessary for the safety of the country, that they called for this measure, and on that ground alone he asked for the votes of Honourable Members in favour of it, and if granted for that purpose he trusted it would be permanently beneficial to the country. With respect to the reform of the magistracy of Ireland, alluded to by the Hon. Member for Limerick (Mr. S. Rice), the difficulty of investigating the private character of every person proposed for the office of a magistrate in such a manner as to secure a correct report of the qualifications and efficiency of each, which the Lord Chancellor had been a long time employed in completing, prevented his assigning the period at which the Government would be prepared for the actual adoption of a thorough reform of the Magistracy.

Lord A. HAMILTON professed himself, after hearing what had been said on both sides, at a loss to decide whether he ought to agree to the measure as necessary, according to the Right Honourable Gentleman (Mr. Goulburn), for the safety of Ireland, or to join with his Hon. Friend behind him (Mr. H. G. Bennett) in calling to mind the transactions of former times, and resisting the measure with all his might, on the ground of its liability to abuse. But when he looked round, and saw in attendance on this occasion not a tithe of the Members of that House, nor even a tithe of the Member from Ireland, for he did not believe there were ten Irish Members present, he could not bring himself to believe that Ireland was in that state of disturbance which was reported; nor when he recurred to the experience of the last 15 years, could he bring himself to believe that ever the Ministers themselves could anticipate those results from this measure which they professed. After the experience of the past, he found the outrages of the last year worse than any former; and he heard them repeatedly imputed to the misgovernment of the country. He could not but remember the able, forcible, and statesman-like manner in which his Right Honourable Friend near him (Mr. C. Grant), with his intimate knowledge of the subject, had repeated the history of insurrection after insurrection, followed by severity after severity; nor could he forget his manly declaration that there was not one of those measures which had not been caused by anterior misgovernment, and followed by fresh insurrection. He found then that exactly in proportion as measures of severity had been pursued, in that proportion insurrection had increased; and he contended therefore that this was not the course of measures to restore and preserve the tranquillity of Ireland. The measure of the Constables Bill was one which no inducement on earth could prevail with him to consent to introduce into this country, and therefore he reprobated its adoption in Ireland. It was an approach to a permanent junction and consolidation of the civil and military power of the country—an attempt to substitute a gendarmerie for the ordinary civil police.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH supported the present measure, because he was satisfied it was an act of mercy towards the deluded peasantry of Ireland.

After a few words from Mr. S. RICE and Mr. D. BROWNE, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

CONSULS AT THE BRAZILS.

On the order of the day being read for the House resolving itself into a Committee of Supply.—

Mr. HUME said, he had taken the first opportunity of the Supply being mentioned again, to agitate a subject which he had brought forward last Session—he meant the fees taken by the Consuls in the Brazils and this Session he had presented a Petition from the merchants complaining of the abuse. The Noble Marquis (Londonderry) had doubted the statement that he had made, that the Consul-General was in the receipt of £2,000, or £10,000, a year: a charge so great on the trade of the country, that he thought it extraordinary the Noble Marquis should have suffered it to remain so long after he had had his attention called to it. But what he principally complained of was, that in March 1818, a letter was sent by the Noble Marquis, countermanding a former order, and desiring that the Consul-General should continue to receive the same emoluments as before. In the last six years, ending 1820, the Consul General at Rio had received no less a sum than £7,667, and in the other Colonies no less a sum was levied than £0,274, as the fees of the other Consuls, and in that was included no charge for the Vice-Consuls. A Vice-Councilship was formed at Rio, and the Vice-Consul charged what he thought proper. As the Americans had no similar charge to pay, it operated so far as a premium to their trade. The Noble Marquis had stated something about the high price of bread as a reason for continuing the great allowances to the Consul-General, but in fact meat was from one penny to three half-pence per lb., and every other sort of provisions as cheap as in this country. The Honourable Member concluded by moving, as an amendment, the following resolution:—"That it appears by returns on the table of this House that the sum of £7,667 has been levied on the British commerce to the Brazils in the six years ending 1820, besides £0,274, £3s. 4d. for salaries from England, making

together £0,274, £3s. 4d., of which the Consul-General had received £7,570, £3s. 4d.; and it is the opinion of this House that such salaries are extravagant, unnecessary, and ought to be reduced."

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY said, that when the subject was mentioned before, the whole of the general question was under the consideration of his Right Hon. Friend at the head of the Board of Trade, this question of the Consuls of Brazil was part of that general question, and though he could not consent that the whole business of the country should stand still till the whole of this complicated business was arranged, yet he was very ready to meet the Hon. Member, and go into it fully for which purpose, he should propose to move that the whole of the correspondence which had taken place should be laid upon the table. He complained a little of the spirit of exaggeration displayed by the Hon. Member which was the more unnecessary as the facts themselves were sufficiently strong to call for consideration, and alteration. Originally the Consul's emoluments were fixed as others were, by a salary, and fees of half a per cent. on every British cargo, which arrangement was made on the representation of the merchants engaged in the trade. The trade afterwards increased so much that the emoluments became much more considerable than was at first intended and his Majesty's Government had three times restricted the fees of the Consul-General, in order to counteract that great increase of the trade. The prices of provisions were certainly very high there four or five years ago, and he (the Marquis of Londonderry) would lay a scale of prices on the table, and should be glad of the Hon. Member's assistance in pointing out any error. Instructions had in the mean time been sent out to guard against the salaries exceeding the scale of emolument which was originally intended, and a declaration that Mr. Chamberlain's emoluments salary included, should not exceed £3,000 a year. He should feel it his duty to move for the correspondence he had mentioned, and in the mean time he should give a negative to the present proposition, as it was condemnatory in the first instance.

Mr. BARING conceived the amount of fees levied on the trade was an enormous evil; he was quite sure, as the Hon. Member for Aberdeen had stated, that no trade could long be carried on in competition with those who laboured under such disadvantage. In the Mediterranean the trade of Leghorn and Genoa was absolutely driven from one port to the other by charges little more than those in question. In old times £1,500 a year was considered an ample and considerable salary for a Consul. Knowing the inconvenience to the public business at this period of the Session, he could not agree to the Amendment, but he thought the House was much obliged to the Hon. Member for bringing the subject forward.

Mr. HUME said he was in possession of the correspondence, and he did not see that it would afford the House any additional information. He begged to ask the Noble Lord when the instructions which he had spoken of were sent out?

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY explained. The Hon. Gentleman had said that he had got the correspondence, but the House had not got it. But he (Lord Londonderry) apprehended the Hon. Gentleman had only half the correspondence. If he had the correspondence of his (Lord Londonderry's) office, he must be allowed to ask how he became possessed of it?

Mr. HUME explained, he had the letters of the merchants to the Noble Lord, and his answers.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY said he apprehended that it would be more satisfactory to the House if the correspondence were laid on the table. He meant also to give the House the correspondence with Mr. Chamberlain. In answer to the Hon. Member's question, the order to restrict the salaries was sent out about two months ago.

The question was then put and negatived without a division.

Mr. H. G. BENNETT objected to the lateness of the hour at which the House was called upon to go into a Committee of Supply.

Lord PALMERSTON stated that it was not his intention to oppose any part of the Army Extraordinaries on that evening.

NEW CHURCH, EDINBURGH.

Lord BINNING moved to refer the Petition of the Subscribers to the New Church at Edinburgh to the Committee of Supply.

Mr. HUME objected to granting £10,000, for the purpose of raising a monument of the nature proposed.

Sir R. WILSON thought it was indecent to propose taking £10,000 out of the pockets of the people to build an ornamental temple, at a time when the people of the sister country were in a state of starvation.

Mr. KEITH DOUGLAS considered the proposition as one which was very proper to be submitted to the House.

Mr. H. GURNEY was averse from the grant at this juncture.

Mr. MONCK thought that after the House had granted a million of money for the Caledonian Canal, they ought to be allowed time to recover from that before they were called upon for any more.

Sir G. CLERK defended the situation of the church, and said that the 1,500 free seats which were intended to be made in it would be the greatest accommodation to the poorer inhabitants of Edinburgh.

Mr. H. G. BENNETT said, that at all events a sufficiency of zeal had been displayed on the occasion. The Hon. Member then read a paper which he held in his hand to the following effect:—

"The Subscribers to the National Monument in Edinburgh request your attendance in the House of Commons on Monday next, as that subject will be brought under consideration."

He did not know who was the author of this, but he thought it a most audacious attempt to influence Members. He considered, under the present burdens of the people of England, the proposed grant was absolutely indecent.

A MEMBER under the Gallery, whose name we could not learn approved of the grant.

Mr. C. GRANT thought the proposed grant exceptionable on several grounds, and should therefore oppose the Petition being referred to the Committee of Supply.

Lord BINNING said, if the erection of this church would take a morsel of bread from any of the starving population of Ireland, he should be the last man in the world to propose it. It was a mistake to suppose that churches were not wanted in Edinburgh. Ten years ago, when the census was taken, the inhabitants amounted to 104,000. They were now 140,000, and only one church had been opened in that time. Gentlemen opposite seemed to mistake the nature of the grant, for it was not for the purpose of raising merely an ornamental structure, but a place of public utility.

Sir C. W. WYNN considered that it was perfectly proper to associate a national monument with public utility, but for the ten thousand pounds proposed ten churches might be built which were essentially wanted.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, as there seemed to be such a difference of opinion on the subject, he would recommend his Noble Friend to withdraw his motion for the present.

Lord BENNING consented to the suggestion, and withdrew his proposition.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of supply.

Lord PALMERSTON proposed that a sum not exceeding 174,000L should be granted to defray the expenses of the disembodied militia.

Mr. HUME said the militia was kept up in bands, merely for nominal purposes. He thought some satisfactory explanation was wanting, as to why so many Adjutants were kept up, and whether the serjeants and corporals were efficient or not.

Lord PALMERSTON said it was necessary to keep up a skeleton staff for each regiment, and as the Adjutant was the responsible officer, he, of course, was indispensable. With regard to the non-commissioned officers, it was necessary they should be permanently resident at head quarters, and unless they were resident and efficient, their pay was withheld. The vote was then agreed to.

Lord PALMERSTON then proposed that a sum not exceeding 116,700L should be granted to defray the expenses of the disembodied militia in Ireland.

Mr. SPRING RICE begged to remind the House that this was not exclusively a parliamentary grant, but was sometimes levied as a Grand Jury tax from the peasantry of Ireland.

The vote was then agreed to.

IRISH ESTIMATES.

Mr. GOULBURN proposed that a sum not exceeding 108,000L should be granted to defray the expenses of the Commissariat Department in Ireland.

Mr. HUME complained that the Right Hon. Gentleman did not enter into some explanation as to the arrangements of that department, which required an extensive grant.—His predecessor in office had stated that a great reduction was contemplated. He conceived that a considerable retrenchment might be made by consolidating the public establishments of England and Ireland. But he considered it quite improper that the House should be called upon at that late period of the Session to vote away the public money, whilst they were so ignorant of the details.

Mr. GOULBURN said that the consolidation which the Honourable gentleman had desired was actually effected in the Commissariat De-

partment; and he could assure him that it was from no want of respect, either for him or for the House, that he abstained from entering at present into a financial survey of the condition of Ireland.

Mr. HUME expressed his assent to the explanation, and the vote was agreed to.

The next vote proposed was 122,784L British currency, to defray the expenses of the Barrack department.

Mr. HUME stated that there were in Ireland 287 barracks, 187 of which were permanent, and 100 temporary. Now he would beg to call the attention of the House to what must be the internal condition of Ireland, which required a barrack almost in every town. A great portion of the expense might be saved if the Chancellor of the Exchequer would reduce the duty on spirits. He thought he might with great propriety propose the reduction of this vote by one half.

Mr. GOULBURN said it was necessary that militia should be scattered all over the country to preserve order and tranquillity. They were preserved rather for civil than military purposes.

Mr. SPRING RICE said that in some of the districts unconnected with the present disturbances barracks were more numerous than elsewhere. In Derry, for instance, there were eleven barracks, whilst in Limerick there were only two.

Mr. DENIS BROWNE defended the principle on which barracks were regulated for the purposes of defence.

Mr. HUME said if the Government would consult the wants of the people, it would supersede the necessity of maintaining barracks all over that country.

Mr. PEEL said, in answer to his Hon. Friend (Mr. Rice), that the reason why barracks were so numerous in Derry, was in consequence of the prevalence of illicit distillation. But they were maintained there at an expense not exceeding 25L each.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY observed, that if the duties on spirits were reduced, it would frustrate the main object the Government had in view in raising them, namely, to prevent the general consumption of spirits amongst the Irish peasantry.

Mr. RICE contended, that the high duties produced a more extensive consumption of cheaper spirits than if the duties were lower.

Mr. HUME instanced the article of tobacco, to prove that when the duty was raised the revenue was proportionably diminished, in consequence of smuggling.

Mr. C. GRANT said that it became necessary in many instances to retain barracks, from the impossibility of disposing of them, even at a considerable loss.

The vote was then agreed to.

Mr. G. BENNETT suggested the propriety of reporting progress.

Mr. GOULBURN said, he should select the votes for charitable institutions, which were suffering at present in consequence of the delay. The following votes were then agreed to:—19,000L. for the House of Industry, Dublin; and 5,000L. for the Lunatic Asylum.

The CHAIRMAN then reported progress, and got leave to sit again.—The Report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

The House having resumed, the other Orders of the Day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned at ONE O'CLOCK.

Origin of Whiteboys.—The term "Whiteboys" was first assumed about the year 1770, by bands of men, of whom the object was, a redress of grievance in the quantum of exaction and the mode of collecting tithes; especially in the counties of Kilkenny, Tipperary and Queen's County. In these districts, farmers had adopted the judicious and humane plan of granting to their labourers allotments of bog, mountain, and other waste land, for specific terms, rent free. The lands so granted being cleared, with great expense of labour, were, for the most part, devoted to the growth of that nutritious root, the potatoe, by which the condition of the labourer was improved. About the end of June or the beginning of July, the tithe proctor usually attended to view the crops of corn and potatoe, and having fixed an estimated value of the produce, no individual could move his crop, until he had entered into an agreement to pay the tenth of such estimated value. To the tithe on corn, which had been levied immemorially, no objection was made; but to the claim for that on potatoe, resistance was universal and excited an unanimous thirst of revenge amongst the labouring population.—Meeting by night, they wore their shirts uppermost, in order to render detection difficult, and assuming the title of Whiteboys, named as leaders Captain White and Captain Fearnaught. Thus attired, they assailed the dwellings, the properties, and the persons of those proctors who had distinguished themselves by the exaction of tithes on potatoes. Various outrages were committed, to which the attention of the legislature was necessarily attracted; and the result was the enactment termed the Whiteboy Act.

Saturday. February 8. 1823.

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Equipment of a Turkish Frigate at Deptford.

SIR, — To the Editor of the Times.

The remarks of Mr. Hume in the House of Commons upon the subject of the Turkish frigate lying off Deptford, cannot fail to awaken every Christian mind, and excite the most powerful feeling of horror and alarm. In the face of barbarities of the most afflictive and heart-rending kind, committed by the Turks upon their ill-fated adversaries the Greeks, that a Christian country should be found, and that England, which can willingly open her stores, place her superior naval inventions in the hands of infidels, and thus enable them to carry on with greater force their furious hate against our Christian brethren the Greeks, humanity shudders at the thought, and is unwilling to believe that such can really be the case: but it is unhappily too true. I was myself on board that same frigate but a few days since, and there learnt the particulars of her arrival. It appears that she came into our port (*under cover*) with a cargo of lime, for the express purpose of being fitted out, or equipped for warfare, upon the English principle; every exertion has been made to complete her with the greatest possible despatch, and she is now nearly, ready, having the tomahawk, the boarding-pike, the cutlass, her guns, and other instruments of warfare, all of English manufacture; and, what is still more, she is to be manned *by* Englishmen. It was stated on board, that she was repaired and fitted by the agency of our Government, I cannot think this possible; but since her history has obtained publicity, it is fervently hoped that the British Cabinet will never permit that violence which must be inflicted upon Christian feeling, if this vessel is suffered to leave a British port, equipped and manned by English men and means. For my own part, it is impossible to describe the feeling with which I was overwhelmed when on board, wielding a tomahawk of English manufacture, destined for an infidel grasp, to slaughter our Christian brethren. Should you think this hasty sketch worthy a place in your valuable columns, its insertion will oblige.

A CONSTANT READER.

Mr. Hope's Letter.

A Letter to the Hon. James Abercromby, M. P. By John Hope, Esq.

We are anxious that this letter should be generally read and widely disseminated. Such a production was indispensable to make the public thoroughly acquainted with the qualifications necessary to form an accomplished Advocate-depute. The proceedings in the case of Mr. W. M. Borthwick afford sufficient evidence of the regard for the rights of the subject and of the fairness and liberality of the public conduct of Mr. Hope and his colleagues; and the letter now before us affords an equally choice specimen of the excellence of Mr. Hope's temper, and of his talents as a writer. It is in fact, and without excepting even the distastes of Dr. Morris, the most disgraceful publication that ever issued from the press of this city. We are quite certain that every Tory gentleman must feel disgusted in the extreme at the attempt that has been made, in the outset of this letter, to hurt Mr. Stuart's feelings, by dragging his name unnecessarily before the public, and by quoting the offensive, scandalous, and ribald epithets of a person Mr. Stuart had chastised with a horsewhip. This is an outrage for which it is impossible to apologize, and which will be, and ought to be, reprobated in the severest manner, by every individual, whatever may be his political sentiments. The other parts of this epistle are worthy of the exordium. It is a tissue of libels from the beginning to the end. But although we have an abundant display of teeth and snarling there is luckily very little power to bite. The tautology and bad taste displayed by Mr. Hope in his assertions, and in the use of his figures, must satisfy every one, that his ability to add to the literary fame of his country is very much on a par with his desire to protect the constitutional rights and liberties of the subject. Mr. Hope is not satisfied with telling us that he had not read, and was ignorant of the contents of the paper signed by him for Mr. M'Neill. This was a plain story, and might have been told in about three lines; but Mr. Hope is so enamoured of it, that he spins it out through three folio pages, and repeats it about twenty times; at the same time, that it is evident, from the structure of his sentences, he was all the while innocently supposing himself to be writing with greater point and terseness than either Janus or Andrew Stuart! We are happy to observe that Mr. Hope is so well satisfied with the responsibility attaching to him for his conduct in the case of Borthwick. If the House of Commons do their duty, he will have an opportunity of displaying his good taste and eloquence at their bar.

The substance of Mr. Hope's statement is, that he was not counsel for Alexander in defending the action for damages brought against that person by Mr. Stuart; that he signed the pleading for Alexander, as written by Mr. Macneill, and for that counsel, in ignorance of its terms; that Mr. Macneill was counsel for Alexander in the private disputes be-

tween him and Borthwick; that Mr. Macneill was also counsel for Alexander when the case against Borthwick was taken up by the private party; that the intermediate criminal prosecutions of Borthwick, at the instance of his Majesty's Advocate, were instituted and carried on exclusively by Mr. Hope, who "purposely avoided mentioning the case of Mr. Borthwick to Mr. Macneill on any one occasion;" that Mr. Hope wished to try Borthwick, but that the Lord Advocate, who had no responsibility, actual or constructive, in regard to that case, interposed, first to arrest the proceedings, and then to withdraw the indictment altogether, Mr. Hope being thus constrained, against his own judgment, to yield to superior authority. But what is very singular is, that nearly all the letter is occupied in declamation and vituperation on the trivial point of his having been represented as one of the counsel for Alexander, though, in point of fact, he merely subscribed a pleading for Mr. Macneill; while the *ground* of the charge against him, namely the oppressing of Borthwick, is left altogether unanswered. Why it was proper to advert to one, and the slightest part of the charges against him, and not to all the rest, is, to our minds, altogether inexplicable. He might have refrained from appealing to the public at all; but we do not and cannot see a reason for his making his appeal partial and incomplete. In his petition to Parliament, Borthwick states explicitly, and offers to prove every word he states, that "the Crown Lawyers were as much aware of the petitioner's innocence, at the time they served the first indictment as when they finally abandoned the prosecution; no circumstance had occurred, from the commencement of the proceedings, to alter the complexion of the affair; the petitioner was apprehended at Dundee, his repositories broken open, and his *private papers carried off*, himself put in irons, and carried to Edinburgh *thus manacled*, and guarded by two persons with loaded fire arms; put in prison there, *access to him by his agents refused, bail rejected*, carried from Edinburgh to Glasgow to be tried, his trial abandoned after he had prepared for it at great expense; again committed to jail and kept among felons; indicted a second time, carried back to Edinburgh from Glasgow, and *after a confinement of SEVENTY DAYS, set at liberty without being brought to trial at all.*" In that petition Mr. Borthwick states a variety of grounds on which he believes that, in the second indictment, Alexander's name "was merely used by the Advocates-depute to avoid responsibility," and, among these grounds, "that Mr. Hope, and Mr. D. Macneill, two of the Advocates-depute, were counsel for the prosecution; that the declaration emitted by the petitioner at the instance of the Lord Advocate is founded upon Alexander's indictment; that indictment is precisely the same as that at the Lord Advocate's instance, with the exception of the introduction of Alexander's name as prosecutor; that a bill, which must be filed for authorising to raise criminal letters, and which by law must be signed by the prosecutor himself, was alone subscribed, in the case of Alexander, by Mr. Macneill; and lastly the agent in the case gave out that they were to be paid by the Crown." These are a few of the statements contained in Borthwick's petition, as printed by the order of the House of Commons; and we are surprised that Mr. Hope did not answer what has thus been offered to be proved before one of the branches of the Legislature. With such averments before Parliament, it was surely necessary, in addressing the public, to do more than tell us that, "if that individual (Borthwick) has wrongs to complain of, he cannot fail to obtain redress in a court of law." Mr. Hope, young and experienced as he may be, has certainly heard of the delay, expense, and uncertainty of the law. Money is necessary to put it in motion, and drafts have to be made afterwards on time and patience, beyond what many are able to afford; and, after all, from the manner in which evidence may be affected by delay alone, independently of all the other accidents to which law proceedings are liable redress for real wrongs may never be attained in our courts of law. Supposing Mr. Borthwick's statements to be correct, and they are supported in many particulars by documentary evidence, it was the bounden duty of Mr. Abercromby—of every member of the House of Commons, to bring the case, in the speediest manner, *before Parliament*. A law-suit might never be brought to a close; or it might, from a hundred casualties, terminate unfavourably for the ends of justice. The party in power (for that is the apposition) might be able to defeat the action, or they might even buy it off; and then what would become of the public interests? How many other acts of oppression might be perpetrated? How many others of the lieges might be wantonly immured in dungeons? We have put the case, necessarily, on the shewing of Mr. Borthwick; but it is a faulty view of the subject, to consider it only as it affects him, or as he may or may not obtain redress. The object of taking notice of any such cases in Parliament is not to afford redress to the individual, which is collateral merely, but to protect the public, by teaching those who would so exercise or abuse authority that they will not escape with impunity—that there is an aim higher than theirs, which without waiting on legal forms, can reach to the remotest corner of the Empire. And is this great constitutional power to be paralyzed, because actions of various kinds may be depending in our provincial courts? Are the hands of members of Parliament to be tied, because actions are in dependence of which we, even in Edinburgh, had not so much as heard?

Buonaparte at St. Helena.

In Mr. O'Meara's work, the Ex Emperor Buonaparte is represented as having given the following account of the not very creditable expedient which he resorted to for obtaining intelligence from England during the War; the detail is however, entertaining, and we extract it for the amusement of our readers:—

"During the war with you," said he, "all the intelligence I received from England came through the smugglers. They are terrible people, and have courage and ability to do any thing for money. They had at first a part of Dunkerque allotted to them, to which they were restricted; but as they latterly went out of their limits, committed riots and insulted every body, I ordered Gravellines to be prepared for their reception, where they had a little camp for their accommodation, beyond which they were not permitted to go. At one time there were upwards of five hundred of them in Dunkerque. I had every information I wanted through them. They brought over newspapers and despatches from the spies that we had in London. They took over spies from France, landed and kept them in their houses for some days, then dispersed them over the country, and brought them back when wanted. The police had in pay a number of French emigrants, who gave constant information of the actions of the Vendean party, Georges, and others, at the time they were preparing to assassinate me. All their movements were made known. Besides, the police had in pay many English spies, some of high quality, amongst whom there were many ladies. There was one lady in particular of very high rank, who furnished considerable information, and was sometimes paid so high as three thousand pounds in one month. They came over in boats not broader than this bath. It was really astonishing to see them passing your seventy-four gun ships in defiance."

"I observed, that they were double spies, and that they brought intelligence from France to the British Government. This is very likely," replied Napoleon. "They brought you newspapers; but I believe, that as spies, they did not convey much intelligence to you. They are *gens terribles*, and did great mischief to your Government. They took from France annually forty or fifty millions of silks and brandy. They assisted the French prisoners to escape from England. The relations of Frenchmen, prisoners in your country, were accustomed to go to Dunkerque, and to make a bargain with them to bring over a certain prisoner. All that they wanted was the name, age, and a private token by means of which the prisoner might repose confidence in them. Generally, in a short time afterwards, they effected it; as, for men like them they had a great deal of honour in their dealing. They offered several times to bring over Louis and the rest of the Bourbons for a sum of money; but they wanted to stipulate, that if they met with any accident, or interruption to their design, they might be allowed to massacre them. This I would not consent to. Besides, I despised the Bourbons too much, and had no fear of them, indeed at that time, they were no more thought of in France than the Stuarts were in England. They also offered to bring over Dumoulin, Sarrasin and others, whom they thought I hated, but I held them in too much contempt to take any trouble about them."

Of his surrender to the English, Buonaparte is reported to have given the following account:

"My having given myself up to you is not so simple a matter as you imagine. Before I went to Elba Lord Castlereagh offered me an asylum in England and said, that I should be very well treated there, and much better off than at Elba." I said, that Lord Castlereagh was reported to have asserted, that he (Napoleon) had applied for an asylum in England, but that it was not thought proper to grant it—"The real fact," said Napoleon, "is, that he first proposed it. Before I went to Elba, Lord Castlereagh said to Caulaincourt, 'Why does Napoleon think of going to Elba?—Let him come to England. He will be received in London with the greatest pleasure, and will experience the best possible treatment. He must not, however, ask permission to come, because that would take up too much time; but let him give himself up to us, without making any conditions, and he will be received with the greatest joy, and be much better off than at Elba." "This," added he "had much influence with me afterwards."

The following extract from a conversation, reveals Buonaparte's opinion on the course of Politics the Emperor of Russia will pursue:

"In the course of a few years, Russia will have Constantinople, the greatest part of Turkey, and all Greece. This I hold to be as certain as if it had already taken place. Almost all the coaxing and flattering which Alexander practised towards me was to gain my consent to effect this object. I would not consent, for seeing that the equilibrium of Europe would be destroyed. In the natural course of things, in a few years Turkey must fall to Russia. The greatest part of her population are Greeks, who you may say are Russians. The powers it would injure and who could oppose it, are England, France, Prussia, and Austria. Now as to Austria, it will be very easy for Russia to engage her assistance by giving her Servia, and other provinces bordering upon

the Austrian dominions, reaching near to Constantinople. The only hypothesis that France and England may ever be allied with sincerity will be in order to prevent this. But even this alliance would not avail. France, England, and Prussia united cannot prevent it. Russia and Austria can at any time effect it. Once mistress of Constantinople, Russia gets all the commerce of the Mediterranean, becomes a great naval power, and God knows what may happen. She quarrels with you, marches off to India an army of seventy thousand good soldiers, which to Russia is nothing, and a hundred thousand *cossilles*, Cossacks and others, and England loses India. Above all the other powers, Russia is the most to be feared, especially by you. Her soldiers are braver than the Austrians, and she has the means of raising as many as she pleases. In bravery, the French and English soldiers are the only ones to be compared to them. All this I foresaw. I see into futurity farther than others, and I wanted to establish a barrier against those barbarians by re-establishing the kingdom of Poland and putting Poniatowski at the head of it as a king; but your *inseparables* of ministers would not consent. A hundred years hence, I shall be praised (*encore*), and Europe, especially England, will lament that I did not succeed. When they see the finest countries in Europe overrun and a prey to those northern barbarians, they will say *Napoleon was right*."

Monastery of Grand St. Bernard.

Extract from a Statement made by Professor Pietet to the Meeting of the Helvetic Society of Natural Sciences, held at Basle, in 1821.

The generous care which the Monks of the Monastery of St. Bernard take of travellers in distress, and their eagerness to preserve them from danger, even at the risk of their own lives, is known and admired by all Europe. But what renders their pious devotion still more admirable, is the danger to which their constitutions are exposed, from the unhealthy situation of the building they inhabit. At the end of a few years they are afflicted with acute and incurable rheumatism, and obliged to return to the plains, where, though still young, they drag on a miserable and painful existence.

The Rev. Father Biseix, Prior of the Convent, communicated to this Society at the Session of St. Gall, the cause of these pernicious effects. He attributes them to the cold and damp temperature which reigns, at all seasons, in the interior of the Monastery, in consequence of its construction, and the rigour of the climate. This serious inconvenience is susceptible of being remedied, by a proper distribution of heat in the interior of the buildings. But the funds of the Establishment are barely sufficient to enable the Monks to subsist, and distribute, in the course of the year, from thirty to thirty five thousand rations of food, to travellers of every description.

A professor of the Russian University of Dorpat, struck with these considerations, invited last year all philanthropists to come forward to the support of these worthy Monks, by a subscription, the amount of which should be employed to effect the desired improvements. We published that invitation in the *Bibliothèque Universelle*, and not without effect. We have received some contributions, which are, for the present, deposited at the house of Messrs. De Candolle, Turrettini, and Co., Bankers, at Geneva; but these sums are still inadequate to defray the necessary expenses for heating the inhabited part of the vast edifice.

When this first object shall be accomplished, there still will remain more to be done. Mr. Prevost, one of my sons in-law, accompanied by his son, visited the Monastery only a fortnight ago, when they ascertained, the southern front of the edifice requires considerable repairs; with which, it is in great danger of falling to ruin. This additional necessary expense calls for an increase of efforts to meet it.

It has appeared to me, that the most prompt and efficient mode of obtaining this result would be to give the greatest notoriety to the deplorable situation of these most useful men, by making it known to the whole of the Helvetic Society, and by soliciting its members to communicate it to their friends, and to all the friends of humanity.

Mr. Prevost has ascertained, that Messrs. Brothers Mellerio, very skillful constructors of *calories*, will shortly repair to the Monastery, and prepare plans and designs; and if, during this time, the Subscription opened should make sufficient progress, the work will be immediately commenced.

Those persons who may contribute to the proposed relief, are requested to transmit their subscriptions to the above-mentioned bankers, or to the Editors of the *BIBLIOTHÈQUE UNIVERSELLE*. An account of their distribution will be given, and a list of the Subscribers published.

Subscriptions are received in London by Messrs. Wright and Co. bankers, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden; Mr. James Browell, Grove, Kentish-town; Rev. Alexander Stecky, of the Swiss Church, 14 James-street, Buckingham-gate; Rev. Charles Scholl, 31, Windsor-terrace, City-road; and Mr. Prevost, 8, King's Arms-yard, Coleman-street.

Appendix Extraordinary to the East Government Gazette.

During the evening of Thursday, about the period at which the Inhabitants of this Good City of Palaces are accustomed to sit down to Dinner, an APPENDIX TO THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE of the morning was issued in a separate form, and coming in the shape of a Gazette Extraordinaire, was eagerly seized, even at that inconvenient hour, in the hope of its containing intelligence of great public importance. Some, in whose bosoms this hope had been most strongly excited, may, perhaps, have felt disappointed; others, we know, drew from it a fund of amusement which lasted them during the remainder of the evening.

The Reverend Gentleman, named below, who we perceive by the Index of that useful Publication, the Annual Directory, is a Doctor of Divinity and Moderator of the Kirk Session, and who, by the favor of the Higher Powers, now combines the office of Person and Clerk in the same person, has no doubt been selected for the arduous duties of his new place, from the purest motives, and the sincerest possible attention to the public interest. Such a Clerk as is here required, to inspect and reject whatever articles may appear objectionable to him, should be a competent judge of the several sorts of Paste board, Sealing Wax, Inkstands, Seal, Lead, Gum, Pouace, Tape, and Leather; and one would imagine that nothing short of a regular apprenticeship at Stationer's Hall would qualify a candidate for such a situation. All this information, however, the Reverend Gentleman no doubt possesses in a more eminent degree than any other person who could be found to do the duties of such an office: and though at first sight such information may seem incompatible with a Theological education, yet we know that the Academy abounds with surprising instances of that kind of genius which fits a man in a moment for any post to which he may be appointed.

In Scotland, we believe, the duties of a Presbyterian Minister are divided between preaching on the Sabbath, and on the other days of the week visiting the sick, comforting the weak-hearted, conferring with the bold, and exhorting the timid, in the several daires of their religion. Some shallow persons might conceive that if a Presbyterian Clergyman were to do his duty in India, he might also find abundant occupation throughout the year, in the serious and faithful discharge of those pious duties which ought more especially to engage his devout attention. But they must be persons of very little reflection indeed, who entertain such an idea. We have seen the Presbyterian dock of Calcutta take very good care of themselves for many months without a Pastor at all; and even when the Shepherd was among them, he had abundant time to edit a controversial Newsletter, (long since defunct), and to take a part in all the Meetings, Festivities, Addresses, and Fatteries that were current at the time. He has continued to display this eminently active if not holy disposition up to the present period; and according to the maxim "to him that hath much (so do) still more shall be given, and from him that hath nothing, even the little that he hath shall be taken away" this Reverend Doctor, who has so often evinced the universality of his genius and talents, whether within the pale of Divinity or without it, is probably the very best person that could be selected, all things considered, to take care of the Pastoral, Pastboard, Wax, Sand, Gum, Lead, Leather, and Tape, of the Honorable East India Company of Merchants, and to examine and pronounce on the quality of each, so as to see that no Drafts are given on their Treasury for Gun that won't stick, Tape short of measure, or Inkstands of base metal.

Whether the late discussions that have agitated both the wise and the foolish of this happy country from the Burmeposter to the Indus, and from Cape Comorin to the confines of Tartary, have had any influence in hastening the consummation so devoutly wished, we cannot presume to determine. We do not profess to know any thing of the Occult Sciences: and being equally ignorant of all secret influences, whether of the planets of heaven or the satellites of earth, we must content ourselves, as faithful Christians of the Age, with including in our records, the important Document issued under the circumstances we have described.—

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT SEALED PROPOSALS OF CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY OF COUNTRY STATIONERY WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE STATIONERY OFFICE, BY THE CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE OF STATIONERY, ON THE 21ST FEBRUARY 1822.

Articles.	Required for March 1822.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	January 1823.	February.	Total.
Country Paper, 1st sort, ..	16 reams..	16 reams	36 reams	15 reams	40 reams	30 reams	15 reams	40 reams	30 reams	30 reams	30 reams	250 sticks	250 reams
Country Paper,	1st sort,	250 sticks	300 sticks	250 reams									
Country Pen,	1 sterl	1 sterl	12 sterls	12 sterls									
Country Ink, 1st sort,	1 sterl	1 sterl	1 sterl	1 sterl									
Country Sailing Wax,	600 sticks,	600 sticks	600 sticks	600 sticks	700 sticks	700 sticks	700 sticks						
Country Sand,	40 scers,	40 scers	40 scers	40 scers									
Country Paste-Board, thick	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens	7 dozens
China Featemp Paper,	4 reams,	4 reams	4 reams	4 reams									
China Constitution Paper,	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires	10 quires
China Inkstands,	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
China Red Lead,	1 chittak	1 chittak	1 chittak	1 chittak									
Gum,	1 ditto	1 ditto	1 ditto	1 ditto									
Country Leather,	5 skins	15 skins	15 skins	15 skins									
Country Tack, broad,	4 dozen,	4 dozen	4 dozen	4 dozen									

Cashier:—1st.—The Quality of the Stationery to be equal to the Masters now open for inspection at the Stationery Office.—2d.—The Articles required for the expenditure of every Month to be delivered on or before the 25th day of the Month which precedes it, and paid for by an order on the General Treasury for the amount delivered.—3d.—The Proprietor of Contract to be accompanied by a respectable person, acknowledging himself (if the terms are accepted) to be responsible for the performance of the Contractor's engagements, and engaged in the event of deficient delivery, to make good the value of these, together with a penalty of 50 per Cent. on the amount of them.—4th.—The Clerk to the Committee of Stationery to be at liberty to reject any part of the Stationery which may appear objectionable to him.

(By Order of the Committee of Stationery.)

JAMES BRYCE, Clerk Com. Supt.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Stationery Office, Feb. 4, 1822.

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Pension Regulations.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Your Correspondent RED TAPE is entirely mistaken in attributing the repeal of the clause in the Pension Regulations, requiring a Property-Affidavit from worn-out uncovenanted Servants, to the present Governor General. The Memorial was presented to the Marquis of Hastings before his departure from Calcutta, and the favorable decision was accorded by his Lordship in Council, previous to his embarkation on the 1st ultimo. If RED TAPE will refer to the reply from Government, he will be convinced of his error, by observing the date of the letter, from the Acting Chief Secretary, to be the 31st December 1822.

February 5, 1823.

INDIA RUBBER.

Date Case in the Court of Requests.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Observing that Mr. HOLCROFT has selected the columns of your Paper, as the channel of giving to the Public a garbled statement of a transaction which took place between us in December last, and which was recently decided at the Court of Requests, and has thence taken upon himself to cast reflections on my conduct, by holding out a warning to any of "your Readers who may be Shopkeepers," to be "more careful as to the manner in which their Sales are transacted and receipts taken," I beg the favour of your giving insertion to the following simple facts, in justification of myself; and I leave the public to judge whether vindictive feelings caused by disappointment, or *their* good, actuated him in giving publicity to a private transaction, which had been determined at a Public Court. I feel a diffidence and reluctance in thus obtruding myself on the public notice, but I shall be wanting to myself if I remain silent under unmerited misrepresentation of my conduct.

The nature of the transaction was simply as follows:—On an intimation from Mr. Toulmin, at whose house Mr. H. was residing, that the latter had some School Books for sale, and requiring a few to distribute as premiums among the Junior Candidates for Prizes, I called at Mr. Toulmin's on Thursday evening the 19th of December last, when Mr. Holcroft was from home. I, however, selected such as I wanted, and as Mr. Toulmin could not inform me of their value, they were put away separately from the rest; and on my leaving the house, I stated my intention of calling again the following morning, which I did. To the number selected as above, Mr. H. whom on this occasion I found at home, recommended some others, when I offered him for the whole at the rate of 2s. the rupee. To this he acquiesced, and I proceeded to make a list of the Books with the invoice prices affixed; and on computing the whole, I found that the value thereof amounted to 68 shillings, or, at the above exchange, to 29 rupees, which I stated I would send to him when I reached home. Upon this Mr. Holcroft said there was some mistake; that he understood the exchange at 1s. 3d. the rupee, at which rate I calculated upon the same piece of paper, when it appeared that the books would stand me in at rupees 46-5 annas. Not satisfied therewith, I was on the point of going away, when Mr. Holcroft observed that if I took a greater quantity of Books, he would let me have them cheap. I then looked over the invoice to notice if there were any more Books that I might require, and having done so, I stated my wish of purchasing about 25 copies of Johnson's Dictionary in Miniature, and the whole of Watt's Hymns for children. Being then in a hurry to get away, nothing, therefore, was determined with regard to the Books already selected: indeed it was expressly understood, that in treating for the others, the value of the whole would be adjusted. With this understanding, then, I took the Books home, together with the memorandum or list; and on the evening of the same day the 20th, it was determined to return them to Mr. H. I, however, neglected to do so till the 31st of December, on which occasion the list referred to accompanied, conceiving myself at liberty still to return the Books, in as much as nothing had been determined

with regard to the value of the Books, and that, consequently, no purchase thereof had been made. To prevent, however, any disappointment to him, I tendered to him the same offer as at first, altho' I did not absolutely require the Books. In the consciousness of acting correctly, I returned, as above stated, the list of the Books, which contained on the face of it two separate calculations, one at the rate of 2s. and the other at 1s. 3d. the rupee. How easily might this paper have been retained by me, when no proof of the Books being taken away by me, or the particulars thereof could have existed! This document, however, was made use of by Mr. Holcroft at the Court, to substantiate the purchase at the rate of 1s. 3d. the rupee, but which the Commissioner properly rejected.

It has been insinuated that some of the Books were made use of in preparing the Specimens of Penmanship, which, however, were completed long before I had called at Mr. Toulmin's; and Mr. Holcroft's declaration at the Court that he had no knowledge where the Books were, I believe to be incorrect; as on my calling at Mr. Toulmin's gate, shortly after the decision of the case, and enquiring of Mr. Toulmin's apprentice boy, where the Books returned by me were deposited, he stated that they were lodged in the bottle connab, with Mr. Holcroft's knowledge. On representing to the Court that I had not got the Books, the Commissioner directed me to sue the Plaintiff for their value, provided I could prove that the Books had been returned to him. To avoid, however, any further altercation, I was induced to call for them where I knew they were, and on my applying to Mr. Toulmin for them, and apprising him where they had been deposited, as communicated to me by his apprentice boy, they were restored to me.

This action has cost the Plaintiff very dearly. Out of the sum of 29 rupees paid by me into Court, more than half thereof must have gone towards the expenses of the suit; he having been non-suited on the first summons, on account of non attendance, and on the decision of the case, the Commissioner having adjudged the payment of the costs by the Plaintiff. This loss, no doubt, has made him very sore and spleenetic, the effusion of which latter has been exhibited in your Paper.

I admit that I was faulty in not having at an earlier period returned the Books; and I was willingly to atone for it by taking them at the price I had originally offered, tho' I did not require them: and had the Plaintiff received the concession, he had not subjected himself to the loss he has sustained. But no! conceiving, perhaps, that he had made an excellent bargain with me, he was loath to relinquish it; he probably thought that by resorting to a tribunal, whither Gentlemen at all times are reluctant to go, he would compass his end. With the conviction that I had justice on my side, I was determined to face him, notwithstanding the reluctance I felt to do it, and the issue has fully answered my expectation.—On the whole, then, the warning which he would hold out to others against me, is more justly applicable to him.—I have had dealings with almost all the Shop-keepers and Tradesmen in Calcutta, for several years, and the present is the only instance, where a transaction of such a nature had terminated in a law suit.

I have been compelled to prolixity in my defence, being desirous of removing the least impression of unfairness on my part; and I trust that I have by the preceding statement, effected this object, and as your Paper was the one chosen for the misrepresentation, you will, I hope, do me the justice to give early publicity to this letter, through the same channel.

I remain, Sir, Your obedient Servant,
February 6, 1823. FREDERICK LINDSTEDT.

CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Remittable,	Premium	22 0 + 22 8
Non-Remittable,	ditto	14 0 + 14 8

BANK OF BENGAL RATES.

Discount on Private Bills,	4 0 per cent
Discount on Government Bills of Exchange,	3 0 per cent
Interest on Loans on Deposit,	6 0 per cent

Cochin China.

To the Editor of the Bengal Hurkaru.

SIR,

I have on one or two occasions troubled you with communications relative to the countries to the Eastward. Some of them have been dull, but I am willing to flatter myself none of them have been entirely without interest. On this occasion, in order to afford amusement to some of your lighter readers, on a subject on which they cannot fail to feel a particular interest, I beg to trouble you with this epistle on the subject of the Marriages, personal appearance, and dress of the Cochin Chinese.

In the first place I must premise, that in the article of beauty the Cochin Chinese are perfect philosophers, and consider a strong, healthy, serviceable woman to be very far preferable to a delicate, beautiful one, in as much as the former is able to endure a greater degree of personal labor than the latter. But to begin, a wife is only to be procured by purchase in Cochin China, and the age at which a man gets married depends upon his means for accomplishing this object. Thus a poor man may live in "single blessedness" until he is 30, while a rich one may "take unto himself a wife" at 15. As to the ladies' age it is generally somewhere between 17 and 25. Polygamy is allowed, and a man who can afford to buy a great number of wives is limited only by his means of doing so. Most individuals however, are satisfied with the moderate number of ten. The better orders when they buy wives, frequently give from 2 to 400 Rupees each, but among the lower orders from 60 to 80, and even as low as 20 Rupees is sometimes given. In this country the fair sex is very hardly used, "their lords and masters," perhaps not so much from choice as from necessity, forcing them to undertake the most fatiguing tasks and the most oppressive details of labor. The fact is that all men, being soldiers, are obliged to serve in the army for the greater part of their time, and during their absence, their "helpmates," are even obliged to support them altogether. When I say Soldier, I use the word in the extended sense which the Cochin Chinese apply to it. According to their notions, a soldier is a servant of all work, he is a builder, a sailor, a menial servant, a palanquin bearer, an artisan, a letter carrier, and in short is engaged in service of all descriptions. They sweep the houses, fetch the water, and perform all sorts of offices about the houses of the chiefs. Every man is liable to be thus employed from 15 to 60 years of age, and thus it is that the whole of the labor falls upon their wives. Accordingly, we find that the women are the shopkeepers and hawkers, they fish, and they plough, and in many parts of the kingdom the wages of a woman are higher than those of a man. The ladies, for their parts, knowing what they have to trust to if they marry one of their own countrymen, prefer the Chinese, who do not oblige them to perform these laborious offices, but do them themselves instead. Notwithstanding the women are thus useful to their husbands in Cochin China, they enjoy but few privileges. Their husbands have the right of punishing them to any extent they think fit, short of putting them to death, and frequently beat them inhumanly. Surely in a state where the sex is so highly useful as in Cochin China, we may expect something different from this.

The persons of these people are rather singular. Their color is not so dark as that of the Malays or Siamese, and not so fair as that of the Chinese. They are far from being a handsome set of men, but are strong and fit for labor. The women are much fairer than the men, shorter, and of a better shape. Some of them, particularly the descendants of Chinese fathers, are nearly as fair as Europeans, and their features are regular and pleasing. Their arms and hands are well formed, and the former are real models of beauty. Both sexes however disfigure themselves by the immoderate use of betel, and by blackening their teeth, which is esteemed a great mark of beauty.

The dress of both sexes is nearly alike, and consists generally of a loose vest, with a pair of large, long, and loose trousers. The men commonly wear two or more vests one over the other, the lower one invariably of some cotton stuff, and the upper one of gauze or silk flowered. These are generally of a black, blue or violet color, reaching down to the hips, with long sleeves covering the hands. The pantaloons are sometimes white, and sometimes colored, made after the Chinese fashion. The vest of the women is longer, and they frequently wear as many as three or four of them, of which the longest is the under one, gradually decreasing in length, to the upper one which is the shortest.

Both sexes wear small purses or bags of silk, in shape something like a lady's reticule, for the purpose of containing their betel and tobacco, which as before mentioned, they use abundantly.—These are generally in pairs, tied together by a long string, and one is thrown over each shoulder. They wear turbans of black crape or cloth, and when they go out, large hats of palm leaves or rice straw which keep off the sun and rain.—They wear their long hair tied up in a knot behind, and not in the ridiculous form of a tail, like the Chinese. Neither in their manners, habits, or persons are they cleanly people.—Their bodies are

commonly filthy in the extreme, and among the lower classes covered with vermin. Their under garment, which is usually made of cotton, is never washed, although occasionally dipped into water, and is very seldom changed. These are commonly worn in the house, and when they go out they put a silk dress over them, and thus by a show of finery hide their real filth.

The Cochin Chinese are a lively, good humoured people, they are great laughers and talkers, and use many gestures in their conversation. For this reason and because of the natural politeness which they possess in a far greater degree than any other Asiatic people with whom I am acquainted, they have been called the "French of the East," a term which they richly deserve, if the qualities above mentioned are the invariable standard characteristics of Frenchmen.

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

Calcutta, February 4, 1823.

A TRAVELLER

Selections.

Madras Courier, January 24, 1823.—The arrivals by sea since Tues. day are confined to the Ship *EDWARD STRETHILL*, and the Cutter *Pow. Envoy*. The former left the *Sand Heads* on the 28th ultmo, and passed the Port, but succeeded in anchoring off St. Thome on Tuesday morning, where she still remains.

Passenger's per Pow. Envoy.—Mr. and Mrs. Brannum, Mr. Meyer, country services, Mr. Smith, do. Mr. T. Webster, Steward of the *Mary, Free Trader*, and James Davis, seaman.

The *Golconda* was all ready for sea yesterday, and was expected to sail during the night. A list of her Passengers has already appeared.

The *Morda* will certainly sail in prosecution of her voyage on Wednesday.

Sporting Intelligence.—The Madras Races will commence on Monday morning at 6 o'clock. Extraordinary Sport is expected. There are eight subscribers for the first, and eleven for the second Maiden. A Private Match will also be run on Monday between two of the finest horses in this part of India, via Curragh and Andrew.

We understand also it is the intention of the Stewards to give a Race Ball to the Ladies of the Settlement, to conclude the Meeting with *clat*.—*Madras Courier*.

Express from Bombay.—An Express arrived from Bombay, via Nagpore, yesterday, having traversed the space of 1270 miles in the extraordinary short period of 13 days, and 16 hours; we understand the daily Mails from Bombay now arrive in less than seventeen days, all detentions included, which at this season of the year by the Hyderabad route, formerly occupied three or four days more.

Report says that the Grand Seignior had forbidden the entrance of British Ships into the Ports of Constantinople, and directed that all English Merchandise should be burnt. This order is ascribed to (what has already been published) certain English Vessels having been found in the Ports of the Morea laden with Arms and Ammunition for the Greeks. It is supposed however that the Ships and property burnt belong solely to private adventurers, wholly unacknowledged by the British Government who, notwithstanding prohibitory proclamations persisted in attempting to supply the Greeks with warlike stores.

The Cities of Aleppo and Antioch have nearly been destroyed by shocks of Earthquakes which prevailed from the commencement of August to the middle of September. In consequence of this disastrous event, the European diplomatic and commercial Agents had taken up their residence in temporary buildings of wood in gardens, in the neighbourhood of the Cities, and intended finally to establish themselves at Beirut. The Earthquake had been severely felt at Bagdad, and slightly at Bassorah.

The Cholera Morbus had committed dreadful ravages throughout Persia. It put an end to a hitherto successful campaign of the Army of Kermanshah against Bagdad, which had reached the Tigris nearly opposite the City, and was suddenly dispersed by an attack of this dreadful disease, which has advanced as far as Diarbekr in its route towards Europe.

The Persians are in possession of the town and districts of Mendala a valuable dependency of Bagdad, beyond the Tigris, south of Coulistan; and have succeeded in extorting a large sum from the Pasha.—*John Bull.*

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

BUY]	CALCUTTA.	[SELL]
1 11/- & 2/- On London 6 Months sight, per Sicea Rupee, ..	3 6 2/-	
Bombay 30 Days sight, per 100 Bombay Rupees, ..	92 "	
Madras ditto, 94 & 98 Rs. Rs. per 100 Madras Rupees.		"

Bills on Court of Directors drawn, at 2 6—Exchange 25 & 26 pr.cnt prem.
Bank [Shares]—Premium 62 per cent.

Lines to Poets and their Readers.

TO THE POETS.

"I'd rather be a kitten and cry mew,
Than such a set of ballad-mongers."
—
"Shall ballad-mongers scrawl, and proudly say,
That none can poetise as well as they?
Poets forsouth!
—
—
"Here's at ye all! ye poetising crew!"

TO THE READER.

What strange propensities in writers dwell!
Some scribble prose, and some in verse excel;
Some write you sonnets, labor'd, dull, and long,
And some, in half an hour, will write a song—
Some hunt for dog-reels, witty, spruce and terse,
And many try in vain to write in verse.—
Some, bolder still, would amorous couplets try,
To cope with Moore, or e'en with Southey vie;
Pour forth their hacknied strains—some phrases steal,
Yet after all its love as boobies feel;
Pleas'd with the theme a sonnet soon is wove,
And ev'ry line breaths forth heroic love.—
Each bard exulting views his lines in print,
And thence concludes there must be learning in't;
Vain of their tinsel, all these men of letters
Feign would attempt the sterling of their betters;
As Madge with Philomel, (a silly thing)
Would join her voice and cry "how sweet we sing!"
E'en thus our poets of the day.
Will herd with poets and attempt a lay,
Think all they write superlatively fine,
Because a genius may beneath them shine—
In "flowery lay" or "sage conundrums" wrought
With taste, with feeling, harmony and thought.
By dint of time if one dull stanza flows,
Ye Gods! what fervor in their bosom glows!
A few poetic phrases next they con,
A rhyme inflames them, and they scribble on—
Beneath Apollo's wreath they read their stuff
Styl'd poetry, in letters large enough
For sign post—indicatory I would appear
"In all its branches poetry done here,"—
Let such pretenders meet the critic's lash,
And blot the rhyming mania with a dash—

Poet's Corner, Kursk, January 1823.

CYCLOPS.

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Name of Vessel	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Feb. 7	Marguerite Roza	Potig.	M. Marques	Macao	Dec 19

Stations of Frigates in the Bay.

CALCUTTA, FEBRUARY 6, 1823.

At Diamond Harbour.—H. C. S. COLDSTREAM,—MARQUIS OF HASTINGS, and CAUDRY, passed down.

Kedgeree.—VOLUNTEER, passed down.

New Anchorage.—H. C. Ships GENERAL HEWITT, THAMES, and MARCHIONESS OF ELY.

Sanger—KEDGEE, (P.), and FAKEOBANY, outward bound, remain.—LADY RAFFLES, TRAVANCORE, FRANKLIN, and ST. ANTONIO, (Brig), below Sanger, outward-bound, remain.—PROVIDENCE, gone to sea on the 5th instant.

The Ship EUGENIA, Captain A. Hogg, for China, and the Ship ELEANOR, Captain C. Tabor, for Penang, Malacca, and Singapore, are expected to sail in 2 or 3 days.

Dekhan Prize Money.

To the Editor of the India Gazette.

SIR,

In a letter I saw this morning from Madras, it is stated that there is little doubt now entertained by their advocates at home but that the real captors of the immense riches taken in the Dekhan will share exclusively the earnings of their toils, and with the exception of Colonel Adams's force, no part of the Bengal Army will participate. A Subaltern's share is estimated at £2000 sterling, and Sir Tomas Hislop will receive £200,000. It is supposed a dividend will take place about the 1st of January, 1823. A pretty New Year's Gift!

I send this as a honest bunch for a corner of your Paper, as I conceive it will be read with avidity by all those who feel an interest in the affair.

Yours,

A SUBSCRIBER, AND A FRIEND TO THOSE WHOSE SERVICES MERIT SO JUST A DECISION
January 30, 1823.

Dacoits.

To the Editor of the Bengal Harbinger.

DEAR SIR,

It is truly lamentable to learn the numerous daring attacks recently committed on the lives and property of persons who have occasion to pass through the District of Nuddea; and it is to be hoped, that the frequency of them will attract the attention of Government, and induce them to adopt such measures as will secure protection to the lives and property of those whose avocations may call them through that District.

It appears that, as a Boat, under charge of four Burkandees, was lately proceeding up the river Hoogly, with treasure for Sonkagar Factory, she was attacked by Dacoits, who succeeded in plundering her of money to the amount of four thousand Rupees.

This Dacoit was committed near the place where the attack on the late Mr. Henry Imlich was made; and in the vicinity of the spot where his boat was afterwards found—the only difference is, that the object of one was murder, and that of the other plunder.

I am, Dear Sir, Your's faithfully

Calcutta, Feb. 6, 1823.

A. I.

Ships Advertised for Different Ports.

Ships' Names.	Commanders.	Where Bound.	Probable time of Sailing.
Thames,	Linton,	London,	10th March
Minerva,	Bell,	London,	5th March
Sir Edward Paget,	John Greary,	Cape & London	All February
David Scott,	G. Banion	Cape & London	15th February
City of Edinburgh,	Wierman,	London,	10th February
Woodford,	Alfred Chapman,	London,	All February
Prince of Orange,	John Moncrieff,	London,	1st March
Phoenix,	J. Weatherhead,	Cape & London	In a few days
Princess Charlotte,	J. McKean,	Liverpool,	End of Feb.
Duc de Bordeaux,	Moreau,	Bordeaux,	10th March
Bourbon,	Bonnelot,	via Bourbon	In a few days
La Seine,	Houssart,	Cape & Haute d'Orne	Ditto
Mercur,	David Chevalier,	Bordeaux	Ditto
Sun,	Anderson,	C. of Good Hope	26th February
Eliza,	Woodhead,	Isle of France,	In a few days
John Shore,	J. J. R. Bowman,	New South Wales	Ditto
John Adams,	O'Brien,	Eastward,	Ditto
Eleanor,	Tabor,	Borneo,	In 2 or 3 days

Deaths.

At Bellary, on the 27th of December, Sergeant Major Wazazee Worrie, of the 3d Battalion 24th Regiment of Native Infantry, aged 24 years.

At Cannanore, on the 1st ultimo, JOSEPH ROLLAND, the infant Son of Sergeant Major J. WATTS, 2d Battalion 7th Regiment of Native Infantry, aged one year and seven months.